



Children's Illustrated

ATLAS



**REVISED AND
UPDATED
EDITION**

Children's Illustrated ATLAS

A gorgeous, fun-filled, fact-packed picture atlas that brings the world to life.

The *Children's Illustrated Atlas* is a fresh new look at geography for kids. It shows every continent and every country in bright, bold colors. Beautifully drawn maps show mountains, rivers, forests, and deserts in detail. Each country features ancient sites, natural wonders, famous people, crops, plants, food, and national sports. Fantastic photographs of scenery, wildlife, and famous cities add an extra layer of information. The national flags of featured countries are included, as well as colorful comparison pages on population, climate, natural features, and ancient sites.

More than 50 beautiful pictorial maps



Colorful icons show food, crops, industry, and famous sites



Photographs highlight a country's major features in close-up detail



At-a-glance comparison pages show tallest buildings, longest bridges, and highest waterfalls



Learn how to use a compass, key, and scale



Continent maps show every country of the world



Fun picture quizzes are peppered throughout the book





A vibrant, circular collage of various global symbols, including landmarks like the Taj Mahal and Christ the Redeemer, animals like a tiger and a whale, and cultural elements like a samurai and a bullfight, all arranged around a central globe. The globe is depicted with blue oceans and green continents, and the symbols are scattered across its surface and around its edges, creating a sense of global unity and diversity.



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A WORLD OF IDEAS:
SEE ALL THERE IS TO KNOW
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A map is a drawing that gives an instant impression of a place. The maps in this book show many of the world's countries plotted with rivers, mountains, forests, and plains.

You will find picture symbols of a country's produce, industry, sports, and activities plotted on each country map. Look at the key to find what each symbol means.

Pictures with text pick out a country's special features, including historic sites, animals, and natural wonders.

A country's capital city is marked with a red outline

Around the edges of the map you can see all the bordering countries.

On every country, you'll find the country's flag .

These photographs show historical and cultural features that are unique to that country.

These photographs zoom in on a city, building, or landscape and show where it is on the map. -----

Close-up photographs show food, drink, and other goods that a country produces ---

The color of the circle matches the continent opener and tells you which continent you are in.

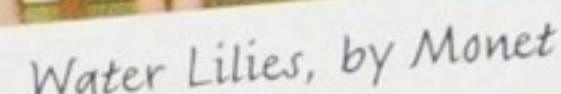
You will find speech bubbles that say "Hello" or "Good-bye" in the country's main language

The scale indicates the size of the country and the distances between different points on the map

Towns and cities featured on the map are marked with a blue outline

A country's most important rivers are shown on each map

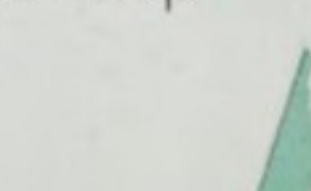
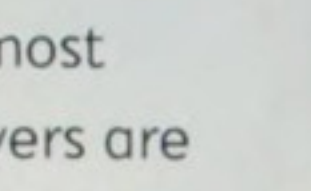
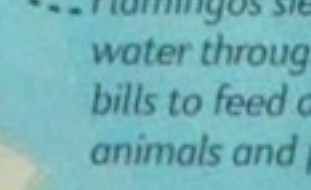
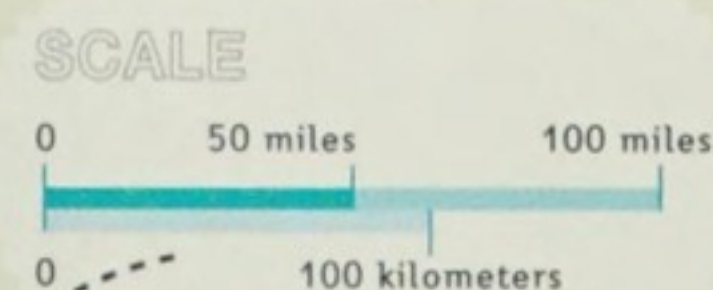
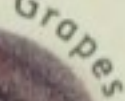
France is known worldwide for its food, wine, and beautiful countryside. Today, most French people live in towns and cities. France is highly industrialized and has one of the fastest train networks, the TGV. The arts, such as painting, and sports, particularly cycling, are very popular.



Millions of people visit France's museums every year to see paintings and sculptures by artists such as Claude Monet and Auguste Rodin.

The Loire Valley is famous for its 42 châteaux, or large country houses. Château de Chenonceau sits across the Cher River on a row of arches.

More than 400 different cheeses are made in France. Almost every area has its own type, ranging from soft cheeses, such as Camembert, to hard and even blue cheeses. France also produces some of the world's best wines, made from the juice of black or white grapes. Sunflowers are also grown in the south. Their seeds are pressed to make oil.



Country borders



Borders

The borders between countries are shown with a red broken line.



Disputed borders

Some countries disagree about where the border between them should be. These borders are shown with a dotted line.

Compass

The compass always points north (N) in line with the map and also shows the direction of south (S), east (E), and west (W).

NORTH AMERICA

The landscape of North America ranges from the icy, snow-covered wilderness of northern Canada to the tropical countries of Central America and the sunny islands of the Caribbean. In between are vast areas of open grasslands, steep mountains, and hot, dry deserts.



Continent maps

The continent maps are colored to show every country in each continent. Photographs show the continent's major features.

Habitats

These colors and symbols show the different habitats, or landscapes, of each country.



Hot deserts

Hot deserts are dry and sandy areas and few plants grow here.



Cold deserts

Cold deserts, such as the Gobi in Asia, are cold, dry stretches of land.



Snow and ice

Frozen areas are found high in the mountains and at the North and South poles.



Mountains

High, rugged mountainous areas are often covered with snow.



Oceans and seas

Huge stretches of water surround the seven continents.



Scrubland

Low-lying plants and grasses grow in scrubland areas, such as in southern Spain.



Wetland

Wetlands are marshy, swampy areas, such as the Pantanal in Brazil.



Grassland

Grasslands are flat, grassy plains with few trees, such as the savanna of Africa.



Tropical

Green rain forests, such as the Amazon, get a lot of rain and so trees grow very tall.



Deciduous forests

These forests have trees that lose their leaves in the fall and winter.



Coniferous forests

Evergreen trees that do not lose their leaves in winter are found in coniferous forests.



French street market

Outdoor markets

Every French village and town has an outdoor market that opens at least one day a week. People can buy fresh fruit and vegetables grown at nearby farms and local produce, such as cheese.

Café culture
French people enjoy meeting up with their friends in cafés. They often have a croissant (a flaky pastry) and coffee for breakfast. In the evenings, popular drinks include beer, wine, or champagne (a fizzy wine).



A popular café in Paris

Tour de France

The world's most famous bicycle race lasts for three weeks and passes through the Alps and Pyrenees before finishing in Paris.



KEY

PRODUCE

- Vineyards
- Sunflowers
- Beef cattle
- Wheat
- Apples
- Cheese
- Champagne
- Shellfish
- Pigs

INDUSTRY

- Nuclear power
- Aircraft manufacture
- Fishing
- Cars
- Activities
- Mountain climbing
- Skiing
- Cycling
- Surfing

Independent states

Small independent states, such as Monaco, are shown with a red border and a solid red dot, and the name is in capital letters.

Key

Every country map has a key listing major features, such as produce and industry, that relate to the picture symbols on the map.

ARCTIC OCEAN

NORTH AMERICA

North America

This huge continent lies wholly in the northern half (hemisphere) of the world. It includes Greenland, which lies above the Arctic Circle.

ATLANTIC OCEAN

PACIFIC OCEAN

Equator

This continent lies mainly in the southern hemisphere of the world. North, Central, and South America are together known as the Americas.

South America

This continent lies mainly in the southern hemisphere of the world. North, Central, and South America are together known as the Americas.

SOUTH AMERICA

ATLANTIC OCEAN

THE WORLD

This is a flat map of our round Earth. Land covers about a third of Earth's surface. This land is broken up into seven large blocks called continents. Water makes up the rest of the Earth and is divided into five major areas, called oceans.

SOUTHERN OCEAN

Antarctica

This is the most southern of all the continents. It is covered in frozen ice and hardly anybody lives here.

ARCTIC OCEAN

Europe

Europe is the second smallest continent, yet has the third biggest population.

EUROPE

ASIA

Asia

This is the largest continent in the world and the one with the biggest population.

PACIFIC OCEAN

AFRICA

INDIAN OCEAN

Africa

Africa is the world's second largest continent and the second most populated one.

AUSTRALASIA

Australasia

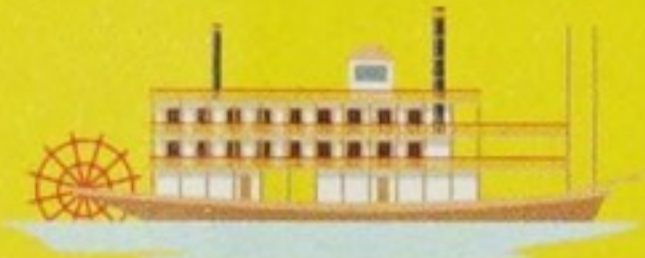
This is the world's smallest continent. It includes the world's biggest island, Australia, and the many small islands of the Pacific Ocean.

SOUTHERN OCEAN

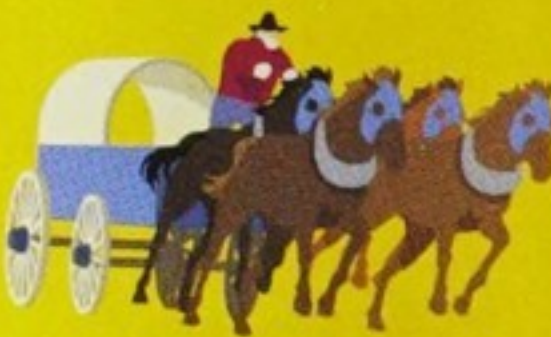
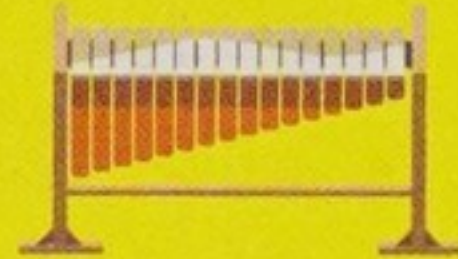
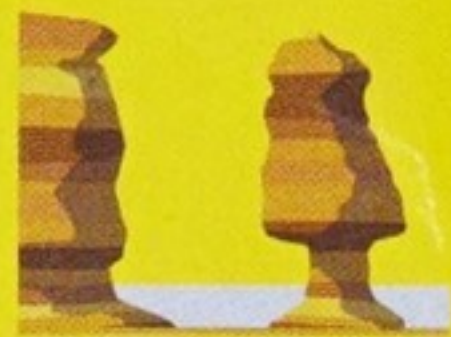
ANTARCTICA



2. The merengue is the national dance of which Caribbean country?



3. In which Canadian city is the CN Tower found?



1. Into which mountain is this sculpture carved?



4. In which country would you find this ancient Pyramid of the Sun?



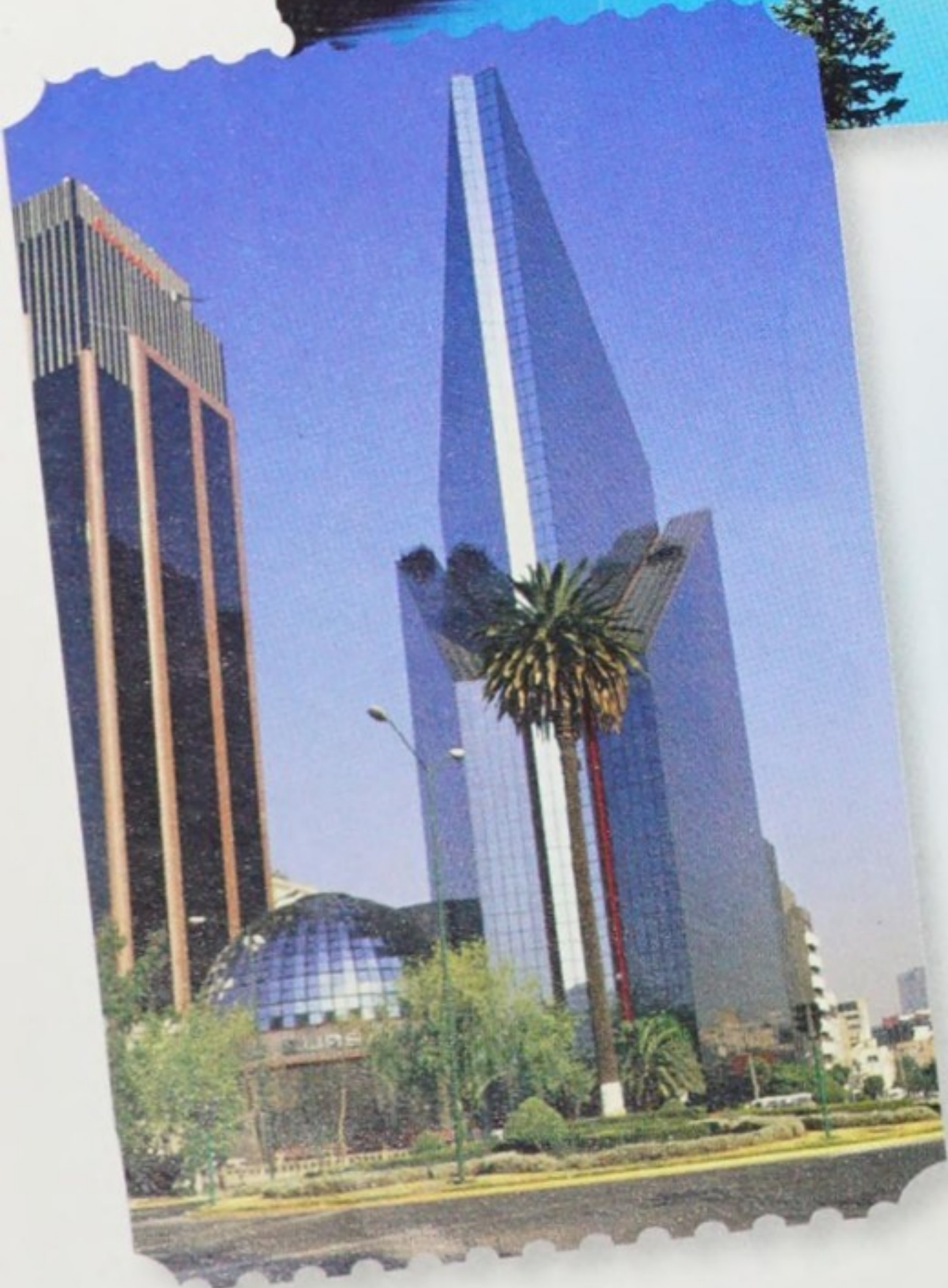
NORTH AMERICA

The landscape of North America ranges from the icy, snow-covered wilderness of northern Canada to the tropical countries of Central America and the sunny islands of the Caribbean. In between are vast areas of open grasslands, steep mountains, and hot, dry deserts.



Rocky Mountains

This dramatic mountain range is one of the longest in the world. It stretches more than 3,000 miles (4,800 km) from British Columbia in Canada down through the US until it reaches New Mexico.

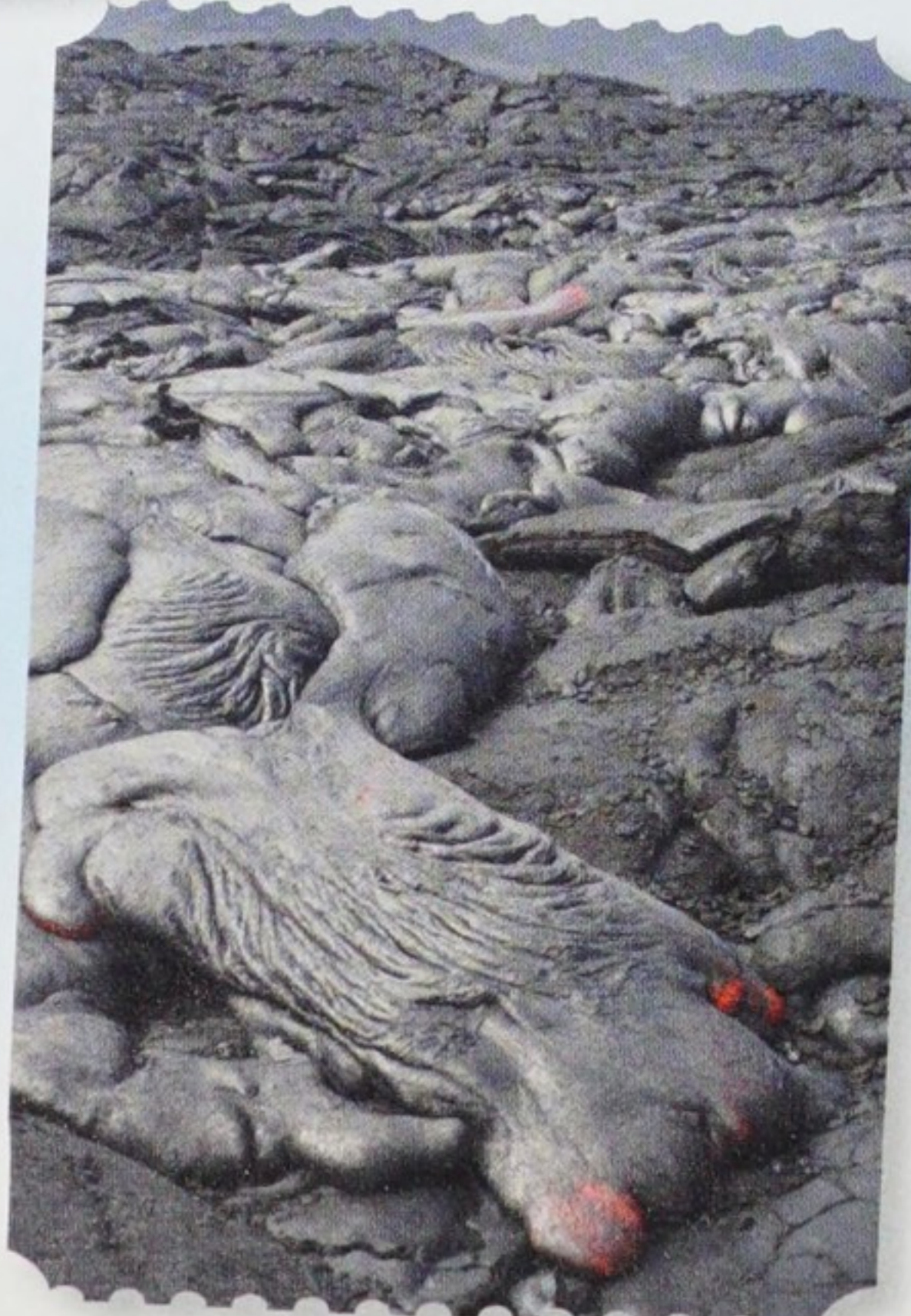


Mexico City

This vibrant, modern city was built on the ruins of an ancient Aztec settlement. It is one of the world's biggest cities.



HAWAII
(UNITED STATES)

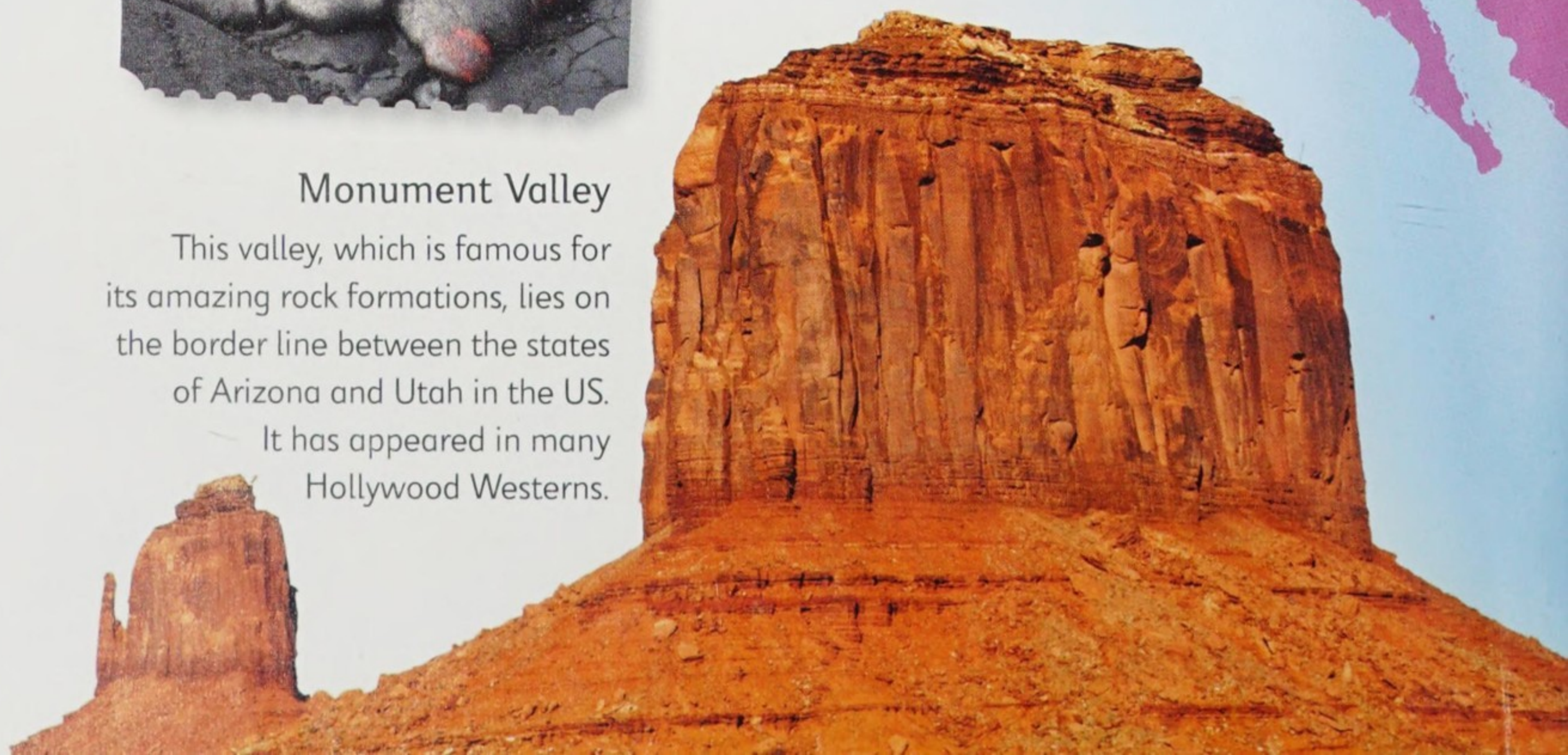


Hawaiian volcanoes

Hawaii is known for its rugged, volcanic landscape. It is home to two active volcanoes: Kilauea and Mauna Loa.

Monument Valley

This valley, which is famous for its amazing rock formations, lies on the border line between the states of Arizona and Utah in the US. It has appeared in many Hollywood Westerns.





New York

The city of New York is the largest in the US. Many people who live here travel from the suburbs to work in the high-rise office buildings of Manhattan in the center of the city.



Caribbean beach

With white sand and warm blue waters, many of the islands of the Caribbean are huge tourist attractions.

- ANGUILLA (UNITED KINGDOM)
- ST. KITTS & NEVIS
- ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
- MONTserrat (UNITED KINGDOM)
- DOMINICA
- MARTINIQUE (FRANCE)
- BARBADOS
- ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES
- TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
- CURACAO (NETHERLANDS)
- ARUBA (NETHERLANDS)
- ST. LUCIA
- GRENADA
- US VIRGIN ISLANDS (UNITED STATES)
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
- HAITI
- JAMAICA
- BAHAMAS
- PUERTO RICO (UNITED STATES)
- BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS (UNITED KINGDOM)



CANADA AND ALASKA

Canada is the world's second largest country. It has huge mountain ranges, wide and vast forests, and bustling cities. It is also rich in oil and mineral resources, as is Alaska, the biggest state in the US.



Defending the net

Ice hockey

This fast-moving sport is very popular in Canada and can be played on ice rinks or frozen lakes. Both the women's and men's teams have won more Olympic gold medals than any other nation.

ARCTIC OCEAN

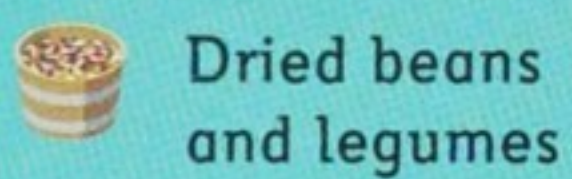
Grizzly bear

In the rivers of Alaska and western Canada, grizzly bears catch salmon as the fish swim and leap upstream in the fall.



KEY

PRODUCE



INDUSTRY



ACTIVITIES



Vancouver coast

Vancouver is an exciting, international city that is surrounded by nature. It is often voted as one of the best places in the world to live.

First people

The Haida were among the first people to live in Canada before the arrival of Europeans. "Haida" means "person," and they live on the Pacific Northwest Coast.



Haida portrait figures made from wood

Haida figurines

Canadian goods

Canada is famous for its maple syrup, which is made from the sap of the sugar maple tree. Canola oil is used for cooking, flax is grown for its seeds and fibers, and lobsters live in the cool waters off the east coast.



Street cycling

Tour de l'Île de Montréal

Every year the French Canadian city of Montréal celebrates the Tour de l'Île de Montréal, a series of major street cycling events.

Bonjour!
Hello

Hello!

This author wrote children's books about the orphan girl Anne of Green Gables, and most were set in Prince Edward Island.

Lucy Maud Montgomery

This grand hotel stands just inside the walls of Old Québec City. It opened in 1893

Château Frontenac

Québec City

Montréal

Ottawa

Toronto

London

St. John's

Prince Edward Island

Halifax

Bay of Fundy

Niagara Falls

On the border of Canada and the US are the huge Niagara Falls. Water flows over the Horseshoe, American, and Bridal Veil waterfalls.

This bay has the highest tides in the world, which have created amazing rock shapes

The Arctic Circle marks the edge of the Arctic region

Arctic Circle

Iqaluit

Beaver

Beavers fell trees and build dams across rivers

Moose

This popular sport is similar to football in the US, but played by teams of 12

Lacrosse

Canadian football

Players use a lacrosse stick to catch and hold a rubber ball in this team sport

This Toronto landmark gives fantastic views of the city

CN Tower

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Golden Gate Bridge

This huge suspension bridge spans the Golden Gate strait (narrow sea channel) between San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean. It is San Francisco's most famous landmark.

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge, a large red suspension bridge, spanning a body of water with hills in the background. The bridge is the central focus, with its iconic towers and suspension cables clearly visible. The water is a deep blue, and the hills in the background are covered in green vegetation. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The entire image is framed within a circular white border, which is set against a light blue background with a subtle pattern.

Golden Gate Bridge

This huge suspension bridge spans the Golden Gate strait (narrow sea channel) between San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean. It is San Francisco's most famous landmark.

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge, a large red suspension bridge, spanning a body of water with hills in the background. The bridge is the central focus, with its iconic towers and suspension cables clearly visible. The water is a deep blue, and the hills in the background are covered in green vegetation. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The entire image is framed within a circular white border, which is set against a larger background of a stylized world map.

Cable cars run up and down the steep hills of San Francisco.

San Francisco

Stars fitted into the
sidewalks of Hollywood
celebrate famous
entertainers.

Los Angeles

This is Walt Disney's original theme park; it features rides, displays, and characters from Disney films.

Hollywood's Walk of Fame

Disneyland Park

San Diego

GREAT
BASIN
DESERT

*This is the highest
waterfall in Yosemite
National Park*

These golden-leaved trees grow throughout North America

. Giant sequoia
trees grow in this
national park

Quaking aspen

Grand Canyon

Phoenix

Pueblo Eagle Dance

This dance performed by the Pueblo people of Colorado represents the flight of eagles

Hawaii

The islands of Hawaii, in the Pacific Ocean, became the 50th US state in 1959

Honolulu

Aloha!
Hello or
good-bye

- Yellowstone is the world's oldest national park and inside the park is a huge geyser called "Old Faithful"

This sculpture carved into a mountain shows the faces of four US presidents.

Mount Rushmore

Tornado Alley is so named because lots of tornadoes occur here.

Cowboys are skilled horse riders who herd cattle,

Tornado Alley

Pecos Cowboy

MEXICO

The letters 'USA' are rendered in a bold, hand-drawn style. Each letter is composed of numerous vertical black lines of varying lengths, creating a textured, almost scribbled appearance. The 'U' is on the left, the 'S' is in the middle, and the 'A' is on the right. The lines are more densely packed in some areas, giving the letters a three-dimensional, blocky feel.

The United States of America (USA) is a huge and powerful country with 50 states. It has wide stretches of wilderness as well as big, modern cities. The landscape is a mix of vast plains, high mountain ranges, dry deserts, and wetlands. Many people from all over the world have made their home here.



Baseball

This is one of the most popular sports in the US. It is played between two teams that take turns batting and fielding..



Independence Day celebrations

Independence Day

The Fourth of July is a holiday that marks the day in 1776 when the US became independent from Britain. People celebrate with firework displays.

Hello!



The US Open tennis tournament is played at Flushing Meadows in New York

Boston

This statue in New York Harbor was a gift from France

Statue of Liberty

New York

Tennis

Yellow taxi

Philadelphia

Liberty Bell

Philadelphia's Liberty Bell stands as a symbol of America's fight for independence

Washington, DC

The White House

This is the official home of the US president

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS

Indianapolis

Nashville

Grand Ole Opry

This popular country music concert is held every week in Nashville

Atlanta

Basketball

This sport is played by two teams of five; points are awarded for shooting the ball into a basket

New Orleans

Louis Armstrong

This jazz trumpeter and singer was born in New Orleans and became popular worldwide

Mississippi steamboat

Gateway Arch

This is the world's tallest arch and is a symbol of St. Louis

In this tough sport the players wear protective equipment and score touchdowns

Football

Dallas

Boats with paddle wheels powered by steam travel down the Mississippi

Houston

San Antonio

US space missions are launched from here

Kennedy Space Center

The Everglades

Miami

Tourists travel in airboats to explore the tropical wetlands of South Florida

Thanksgiving

Family and friends gather to give thanks for the blessing of the harvest at Thanksgiving in November.

Turkey is traditionally eaten at Thanksgiving as part of a big meal

Halloween

The festival of Halloween is celebrated every year on October 31, when children dress up in costumes and go from house to house "trick-or-treating" for candy and other treats.

Jack-o'-lantern



KEY

PRODUCE

- Oranges
- Wheat
- Corn
- Vineyards
- Almonds
- Peanuts
- Watermelons
- Apples
- Cotton
- Cattle
- Raisins
- Rice

INDUSTRY

- Fishing
- Coal
- Oil
- Gold
- Wind farms
- Cars
- Electronics
- Nuclear
- ACTIVITIES
- Golf
- Skiing
- Surfing

NATURAL FEATURES

- Volcanoes
- Earthquakes

Tijuana

SONORAN
DESERT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ciudad Juárez

Hola!
Hello

Copper Canyon

This is a group of deep canyons formed by six rivers. The walls of the canyons are copper- and green-colored, giving them their name.



This treelike cactus can live in the desert for more than 150 years...

Saguaro cactus

Brown pelican

This small species of pelican is found on coastal areas of the Americas

Chihuahua

SIERRA MADRE OCCIDENTAL

CHIHUAHUA DESERT

Los Mochis

La Paz

Durango

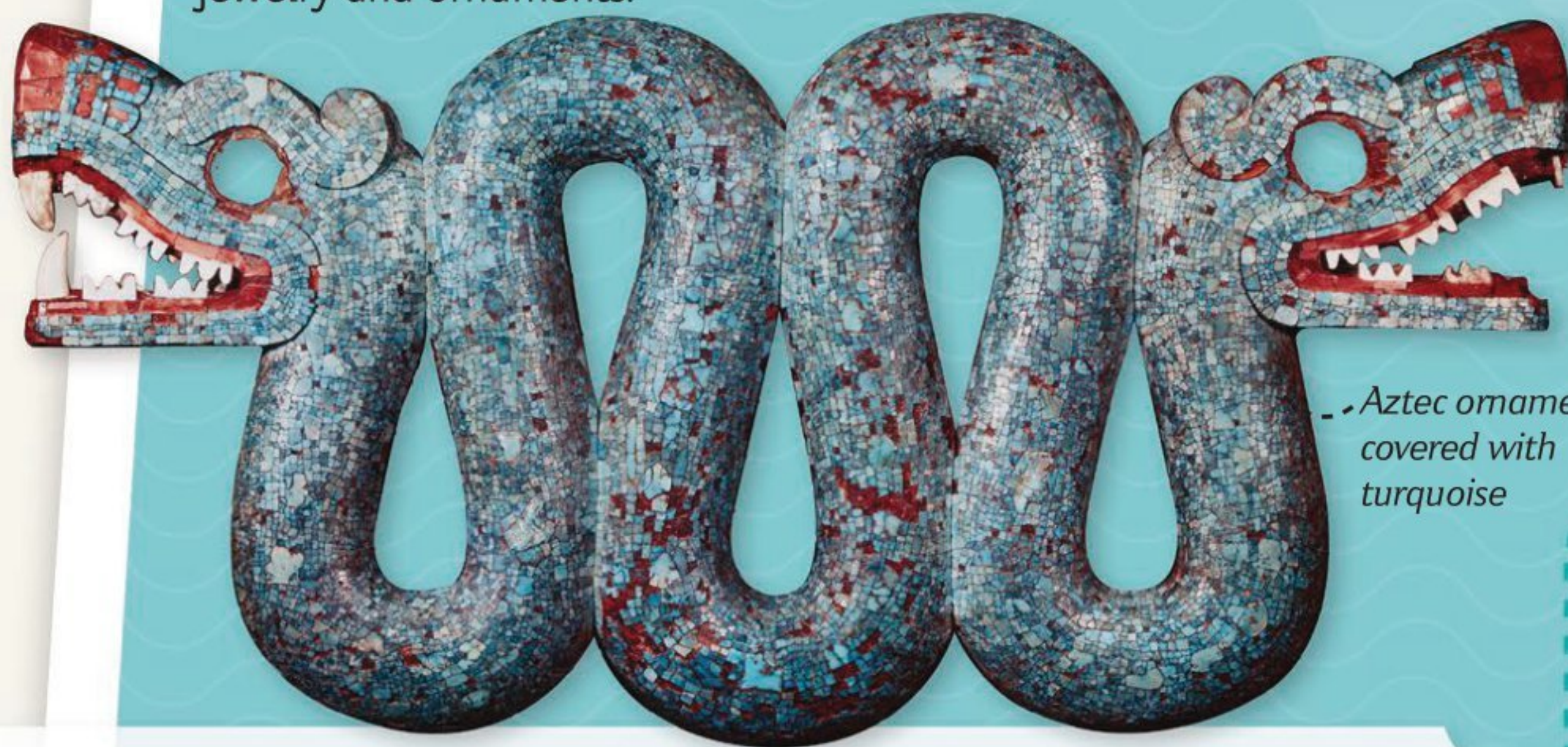
Rio San Pedro

Rio Lerma

Guadalajara

Aztec ornament

The Aztecs lived in Central Mexico during the 14th to 16th centuries. They made beautiful jewelry and ornaments.



Aztec ornament covered with turquoise

El Arco

If you sail directly south from this rock formation, the first land you reach will be Antarctica

KEY

PRODUCE

- Corn
- Chili peppers
- Limes
- Oranges
- Grapefruit
- Coffee
- Cocoa
- Cotton
- Avocados

INDUSTRY

- Fishing
- Oil
- Cars
- NATURAL RESOURCES
- Gold
- Silver
- Copper

NATURAL FEATURES

- Volcanoes
- Earthquakes

The heart of this plant is used to make the alcoholic drink tequila...

Blue Agave



SCALE

0 150 miles
0 150 kilometers

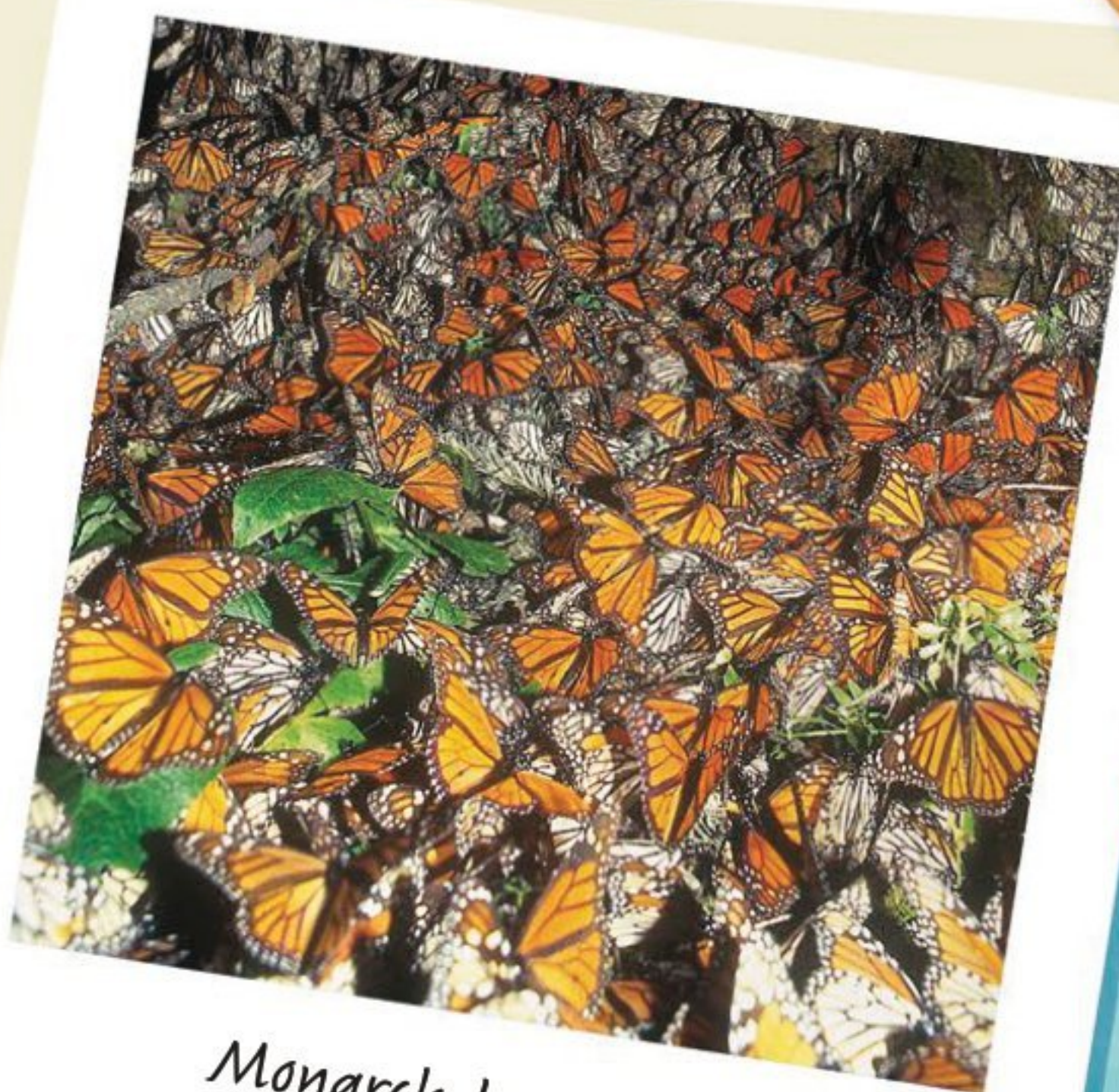
MEXICO

The Aztec and Mayan peoples originated in Mexico. The ruins of their temples still stand. Today, this Spanish-speaking country is home to fiery, chili-flavored foods. The landscape is a mix of desert, mountains, and tropical forests. The capital, Mexico City, is one of the largest cities in the world.

Butterfly reserve

Every year in the fall, thousands of monarch butterflies migrate (move) from northern North America to Mexico.

The Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve, northwest of Mexico City, protects these butterflies during the winter.



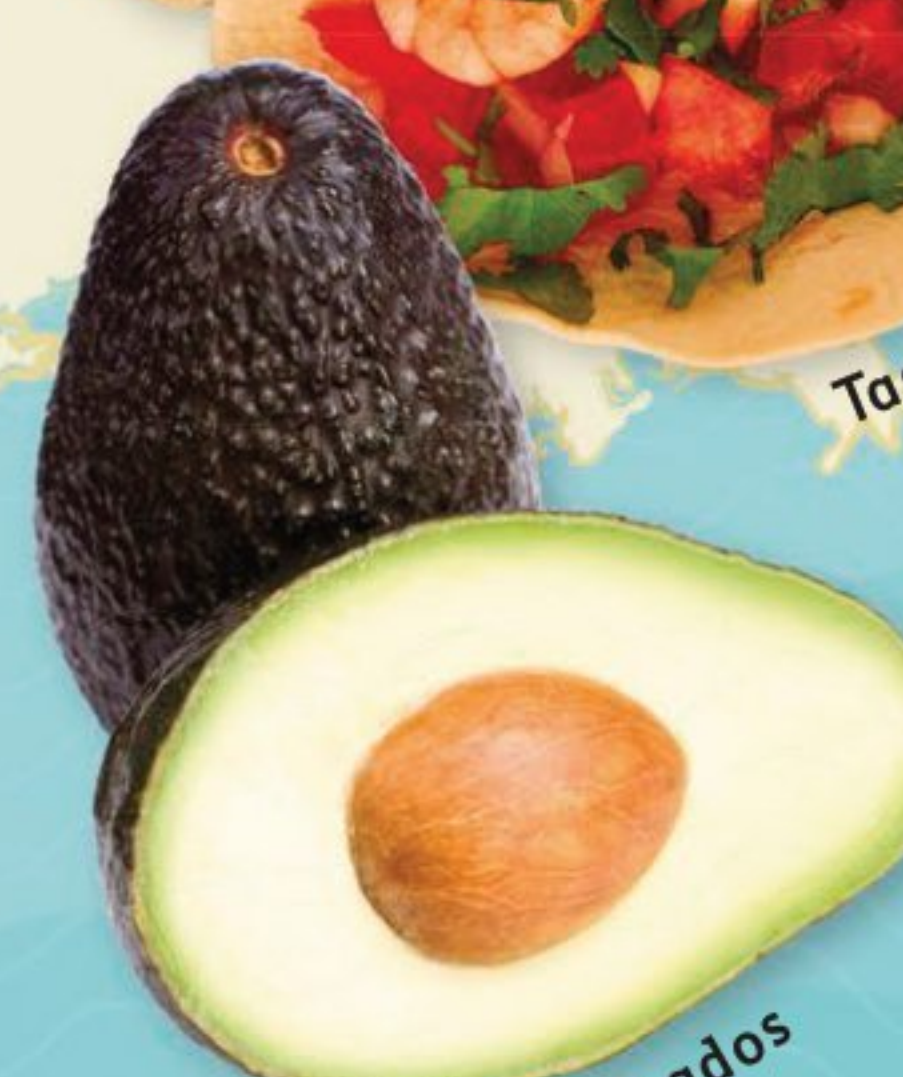
Monarch butterflies



Tacos



Limes



Avocados

Spicy food

Mexican food is often very spicy and includes tacos, which are corn tortillas (flatbread) filled with meat or seafood. Refreshing limes and creamy avocados are grown in many parts of Mexico.

Lucha Libre

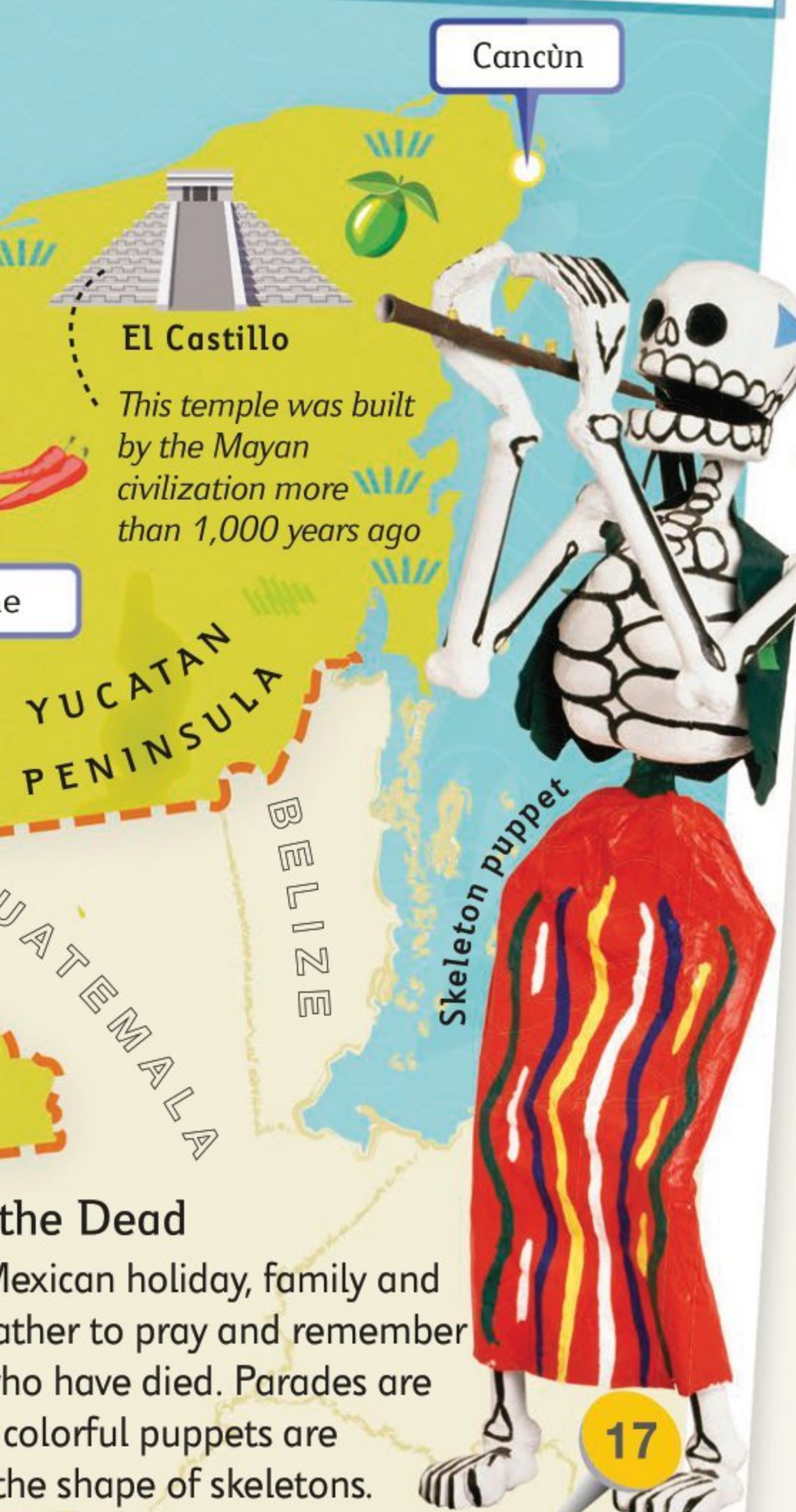
Lucha Libre, which means "free wrestling," is a special type of wrestling. Fighters wear dramatic costumes, including masks, to hide their identity.



Masked wrestlers

Palenque

This ruined Mayan city in southern Mexico thrived from 500–700 CE. Many of the ruins are still covered by jungle.



Day of the Dead

On this Mexican holiday, family and friends gather to pray and remember people who have died. Parades are held and colorful puppets are made in the shape of skeletons.





Street markets
The town of Chichicastenango in Guatemala holds a street market that draws in crowds of people. Market stalls sell traditional Mayan crafts, including colorful textiles.

KEY

PRODUCE

- Bananas
- Cattle
- Cocoa
- Coconuts
- Coffee beans
- Sugar cane

INDUSTRY

- Gold

ACTIVITIES

- Baseball

NATURAL FEATURES

- Green turtles

SCALE



CENTRAL AMERICA

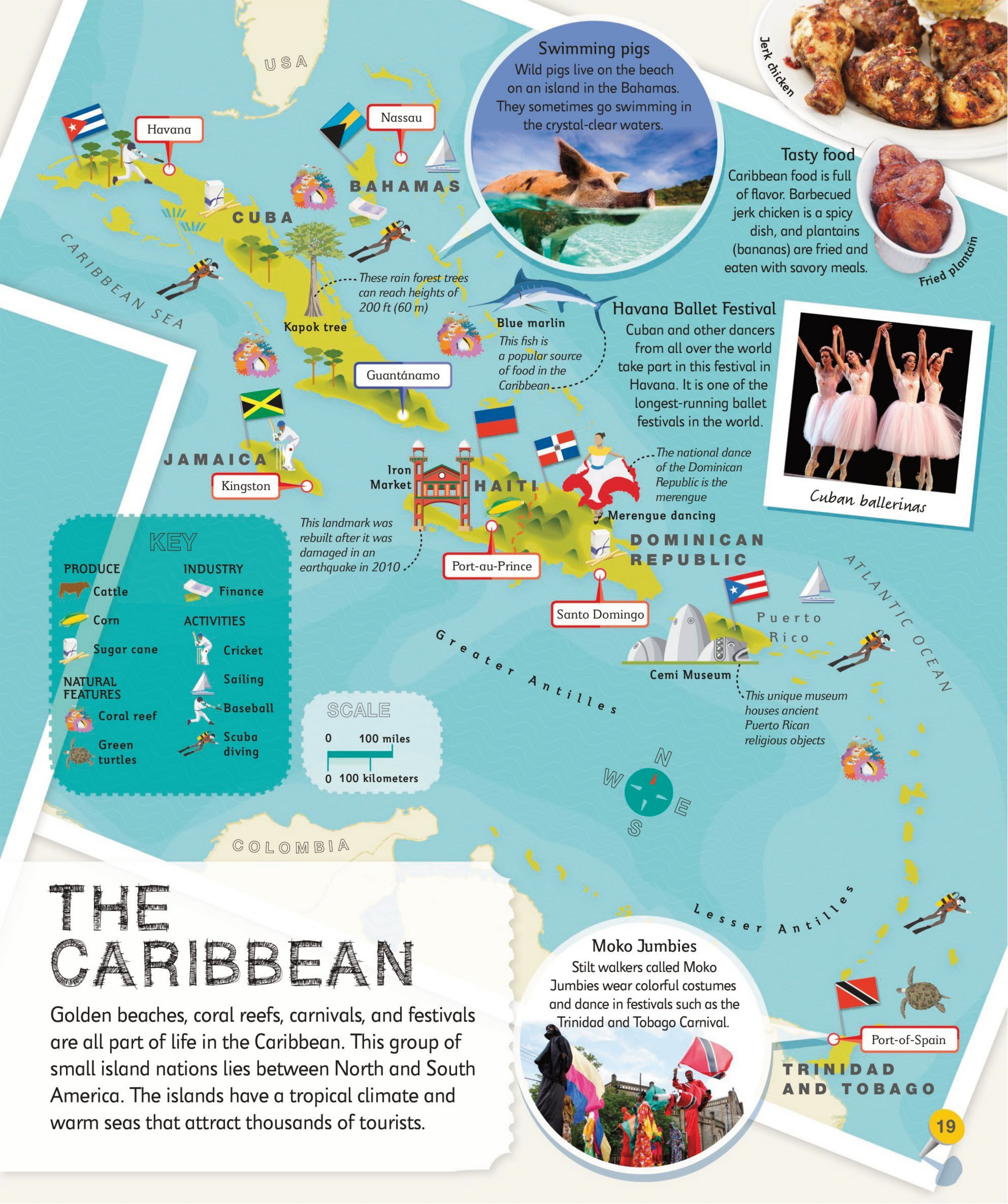
Central America is a narrow strip of land that links North and South America. The climate is warm and wet, and the lush fertile land is ideal for growing crops, such as bananas and coffee beans. Most of the people in Central America speak Spanish.



Fruit and nuts

Large farms, called plantations, are found throughout Central America. They grow tropical fruits and nuts such as juicy pineapples and delicious coconuts.





Swimming pigs
Wild pigs live on the beach on an island in the Bahamas. They sometimes go swimming in the crystal-clear waters.

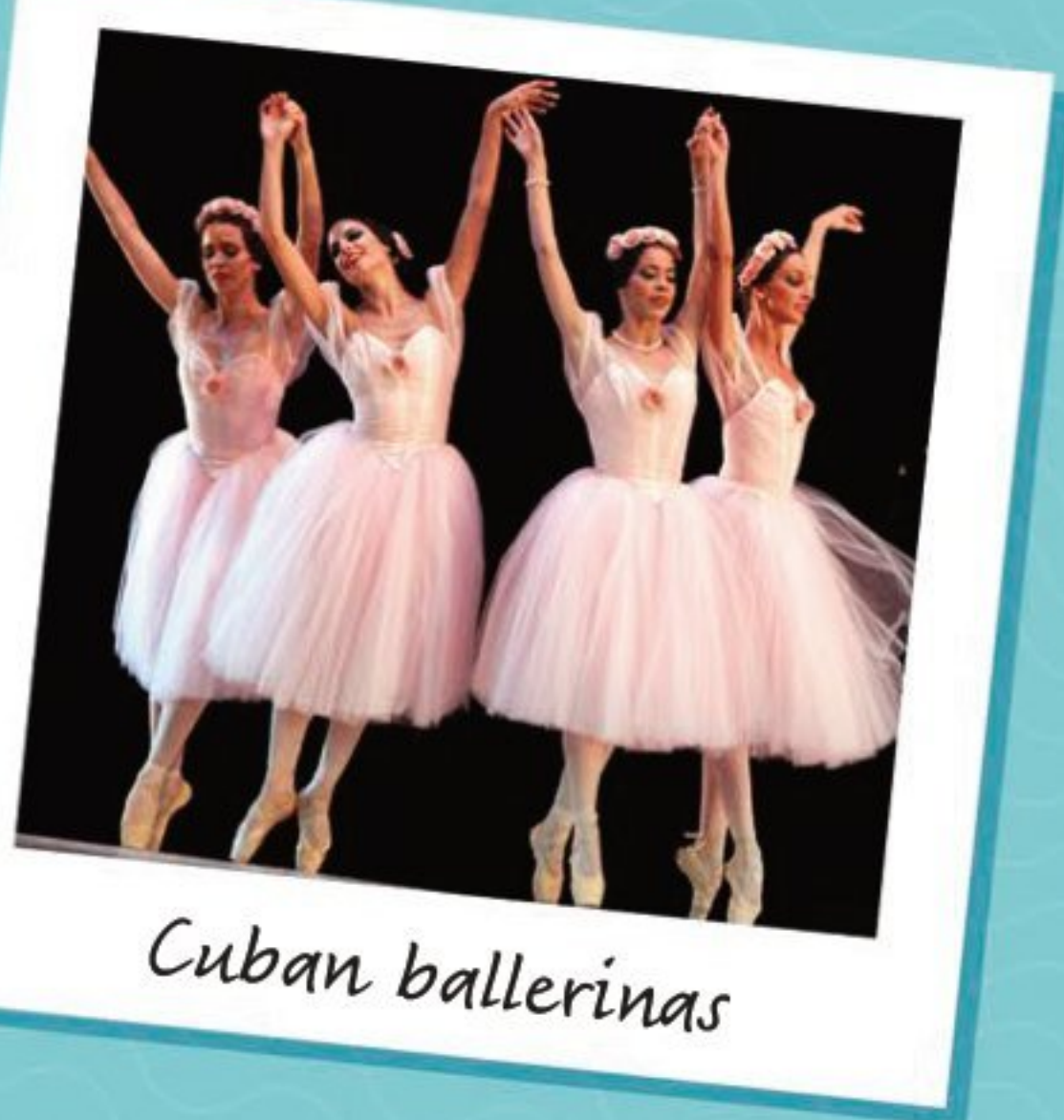
Tasty food
Caribbean food is full of flavor. Barbecued jerk chicken is a spicy dish, and plantains (bananas) are fried and eaten with savory meals.

Havana Ballet Festival
Cuban and other dancers from all over the world take part in this festival in Havana. It is one of the longest-running ballet festivals in the world.

Blue marlin
This fish is a popular source of food in the Caribbean.

This landmark was rebuilt after it was damaged in an earthquake in 2010.

The national dance of the Dominican Republic is the merengue



Cuban ballerinas



Moko Jumbies
Stilt walkers called Moko Jumbies wear colorful costumes and dance in festivals such as the Trinidad and Tobago Carnival.

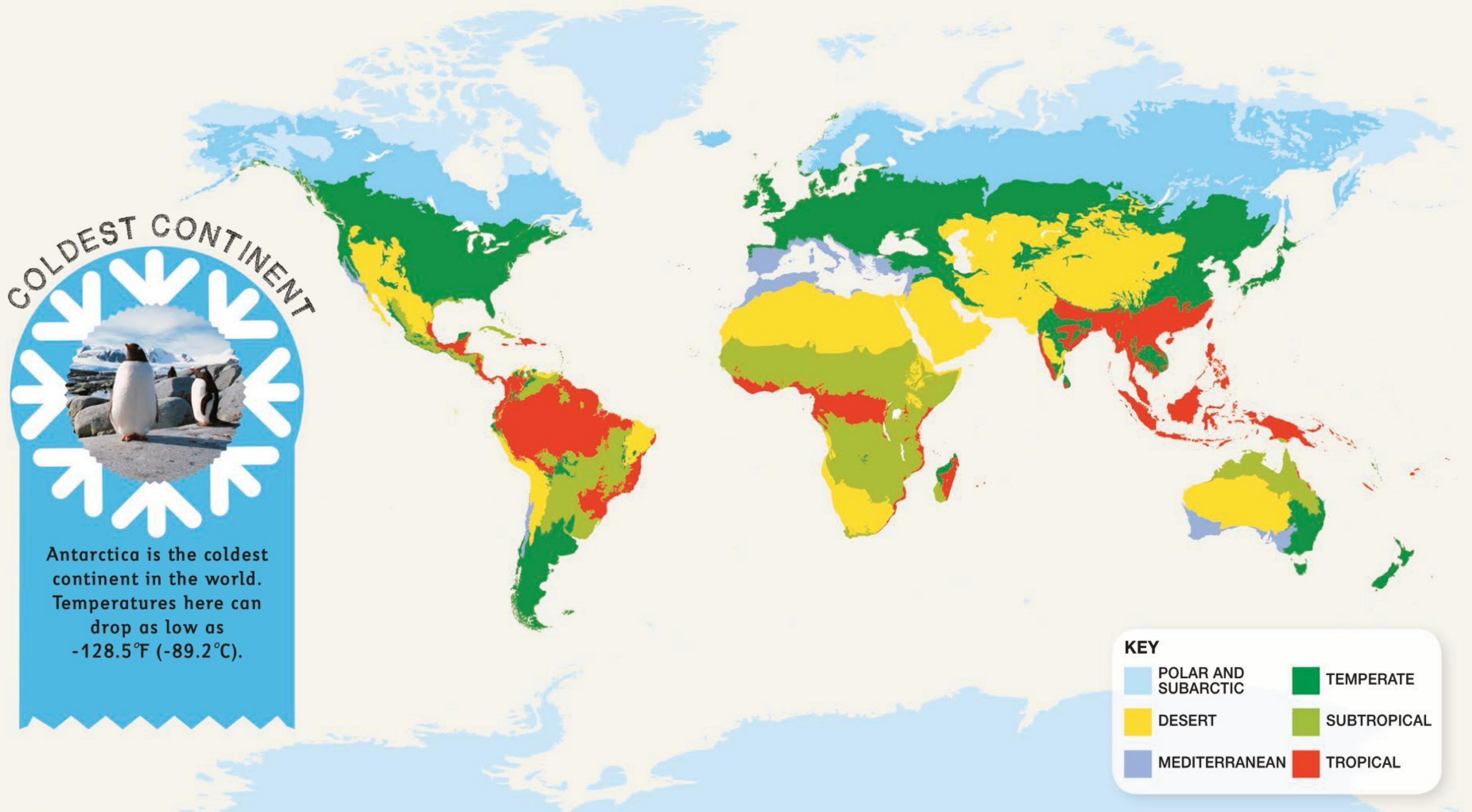
THE CARIBBEAN

Golden beaches, coral reefs, carnivals, and festivals are all part of life in the Caribbean. This group of small island nations lies between North and South America. The islands have a tropical climate and warm seas that attract thousands of tourists.

CLIMATES

The weather that is typical of an area is called a climate. Climates vary around the world. The polar regions at the top and bottom of the Earth are the coldest places. Moving toward the equator, the climate gets warmer. Different animals and plants are suited to different types of climate.

The world is getting warmer. The average temperature has risen by 1.4°F (0.8°C) since 1880.



POLAR AND SUBARCTIC

The climate around the North and South Poles is freezing cold and icy. Subarctic regions lie south of the North Pole, where the climate is a little warmer and some plants can survive.

DESERT

A desert climate is dry, with very little rainfall each year. Many deserts are very hot in the day and cold at night. Only a few plants and animals can survive in this harsh climate.

MEDITERRANEAN

Regions close to the Mediterranean Sea have hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters. This type of climate also describes places with similar weather patterns, such as California.

TEMPERATE

Areas with a temperate climate, such as the British Isles, have warm summers and cool winters. This kind of climate suits deciduous trees, which lose their leaves in winter.

SUBTROPICAL

Hot regions of the world with dry and rainy seasons have a subtropical climate. African savannas, which are large grasslands with few trees, have this kind of climate.

TROPICAL

A tropical climate is hot and rainy. Regions with this kind of climate are near the equator. Dense rain forests grow here. The Amazon rain forest is an example of a tropical region.



Death Valley, California
134°F (56.7°C)

Kebili, Tunisia
131°F (55°C)

Tirat Tsvi, Israel
129°F (54°C)

Sulaibiya, Kuwait
128.3°F (53.5°C)

Mohenjo-daro, Pakistan
128.3°F (53.5°C)

Snag, Yukon, Canada
-81.4°F (-63°C)

Oymyakon, Russia
-90°F (-67.7°C)

Klinck, Greenland
-93.3°F (-69.6°C)

South Pole, Antarctica
-117°F (-82.8°C)

Vostok Station, Antarctica
-128.5°F (-89.2°C)

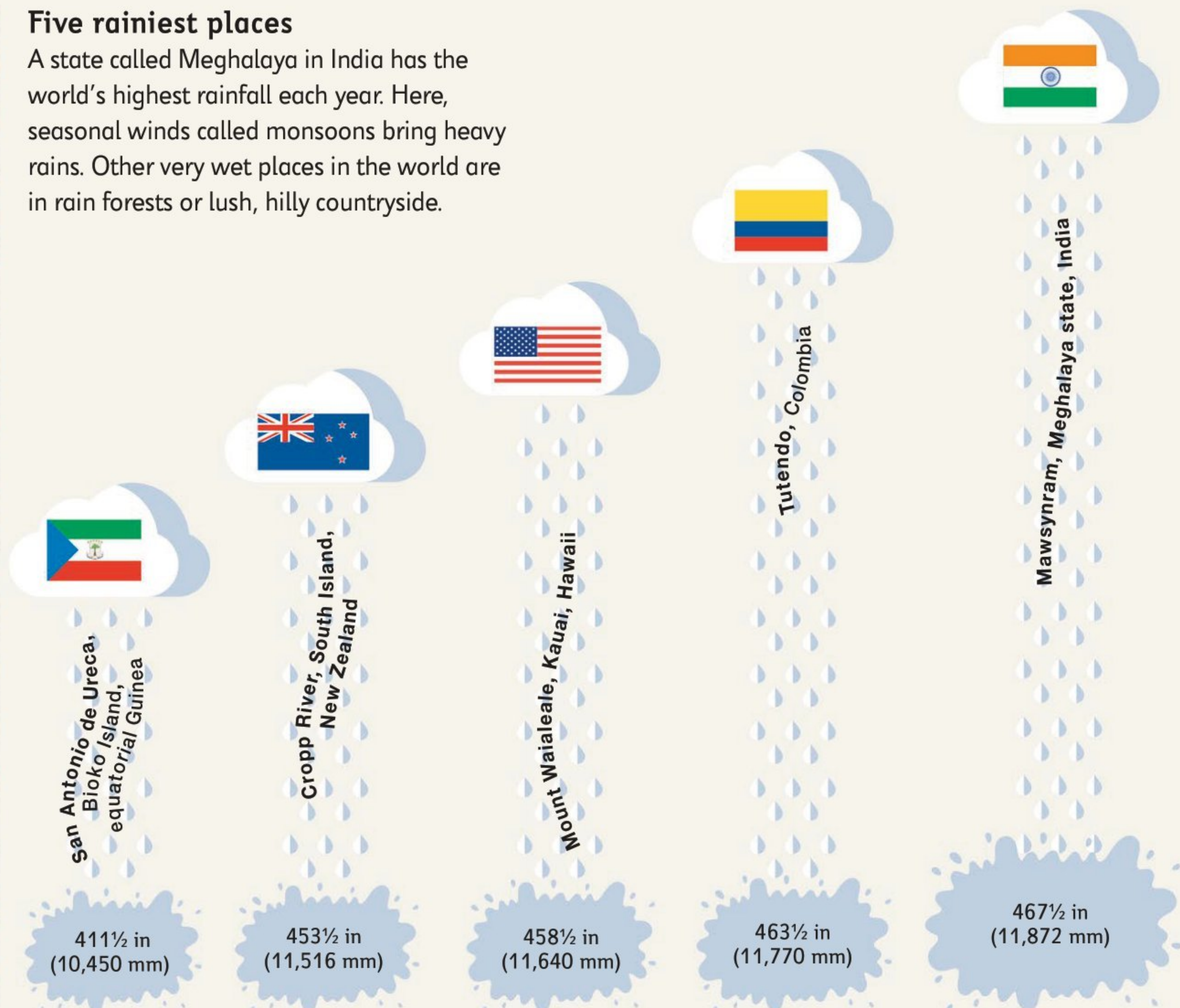


Hot and cold places

The hottest places on Earth are in desert regions. They are hotter than tropical areas, because there are no clouds to block the Sun. The coldest places are polar regions. They get less sunlight than other places.

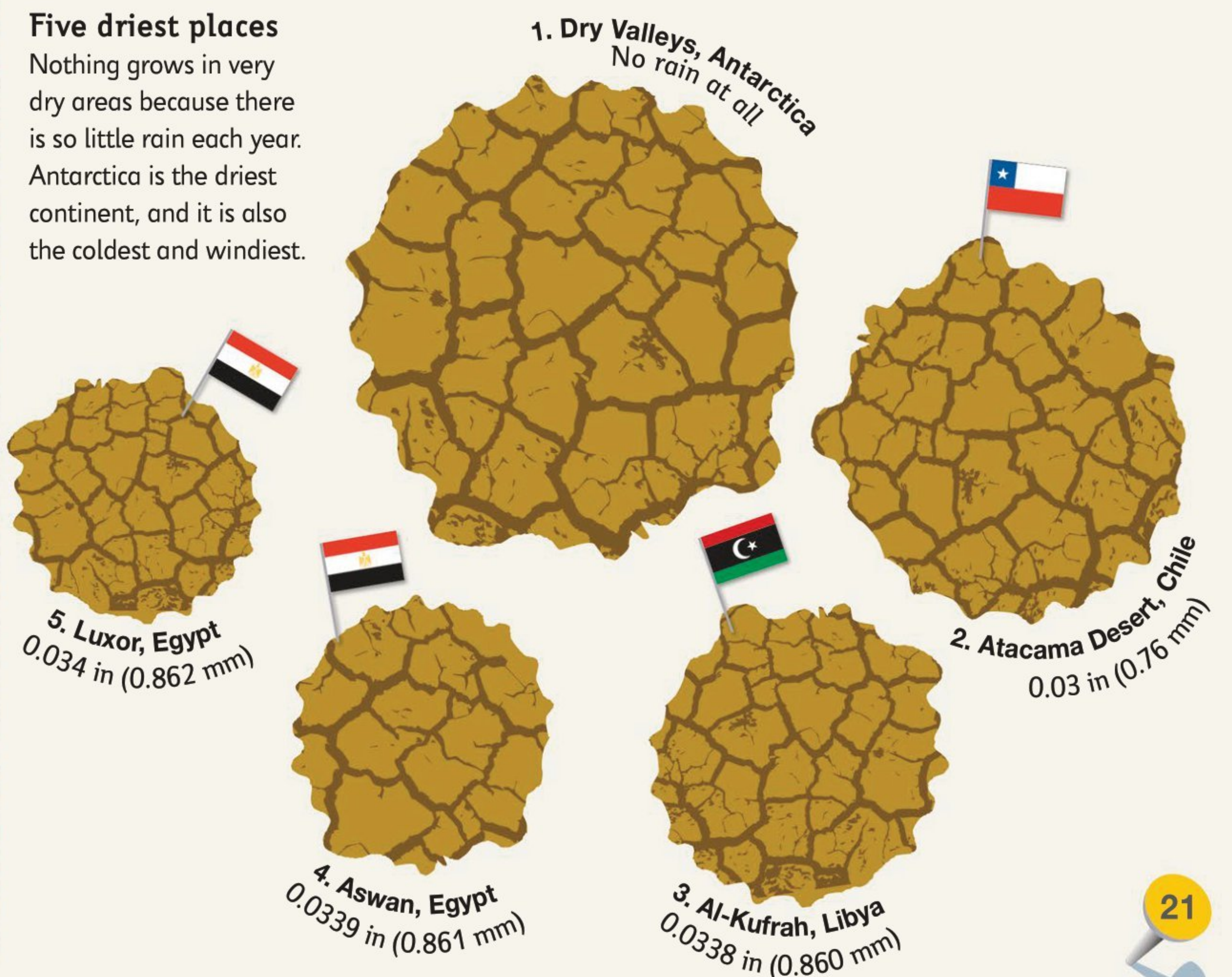
Five rainiest places

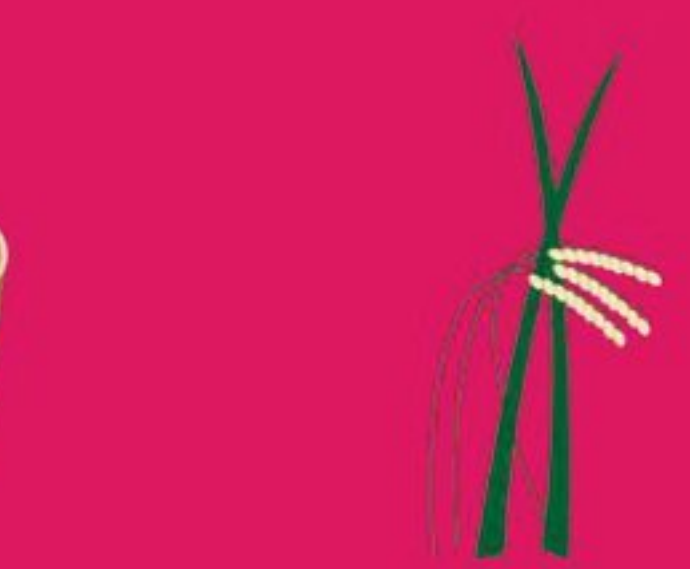
A state called Meghalaya in India has the world's highest rainfall each year. Here, seasonal winds called monsoons bring heavy rains. Other very wet places in the world are in rain forests or lush, hilly countryside.



Five driest places

Nothing grows in very dry areas because there is so little rain each year. Antarctica is the driest continent, and it is also the coldest and windiest.





SOUTH AMERICA

South America stretches from the tropical Caribbean Sea in the north to the icy Southern Ocean in the south. The world's largest forest, the Amazon rain forest, covers most of Brazil and the northern part of the continent.



Lake Titicaca

This deep lake, high up in the Andes mountains, sits on the border between Bolivia and Peru. There are several inhabited islands on the lake, including some floating, man-made islands, built from reeds. The way of life here has changed little over the centuries.



Amazon river

This giant river flows through the Amazon rain forest, out into the Atlantic Ocean. It carries more water than any other river in the world.



Andes mountains

This mountain range runs like a spine down the west side of South America. It is the world's longest mountain range, stretching from the north of Colombia to the southern tip of Chile.





ATLANTIC OCEAN

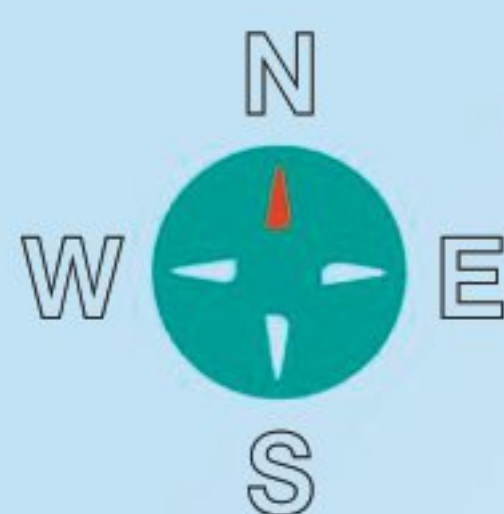
BRAZIL

PARAGUAY

URUGUAY

FALKLAND ISLANDS
(UNITED KINGDOM)

SCOTIA SEA



São Paulo

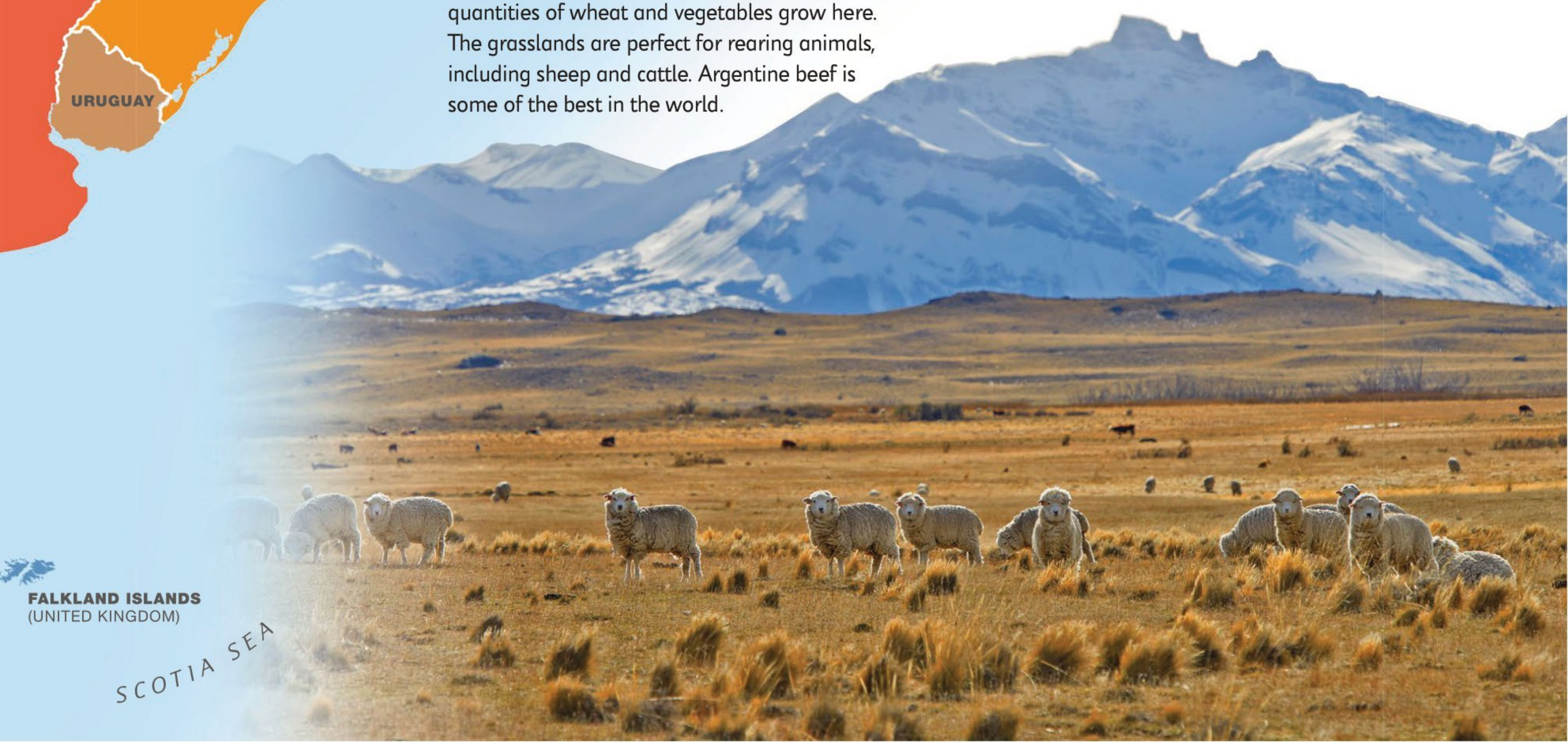
More people live in São Paulo than in any other city in South America. It started as a tiny, isolated village, which was founded by Portuguese settlers in the 16th century. After gold was discovered nearby in the 1690s, it grew, and this bustling city is now Brazil's main business center.

SCALE



Pampas

This vast, grassy plain stretches over the eastern part of Argentina, most of Uruguay and the extreme south of Brazil. Parts are now farmed and huge quantities of wheat and vegetables grow here. The grasslands are perfect for rearing animals, including sheep and cattle. Argentine beef is some of the best in the world.



COLOMBIA AND VENEZUELA

Colombia and Venezuela lie in the northwest corner of South America. To the north is the Caribbean Sea and to the south is the Amazon rain forest. These Spanish-speaking countries are rich in emeralds, diamonds, and gold.



Scarlet macaw
This large, noisy parrot lives in the rain forests of both Colombia and Venezuela. It eats nuts, seeds, and fruit.

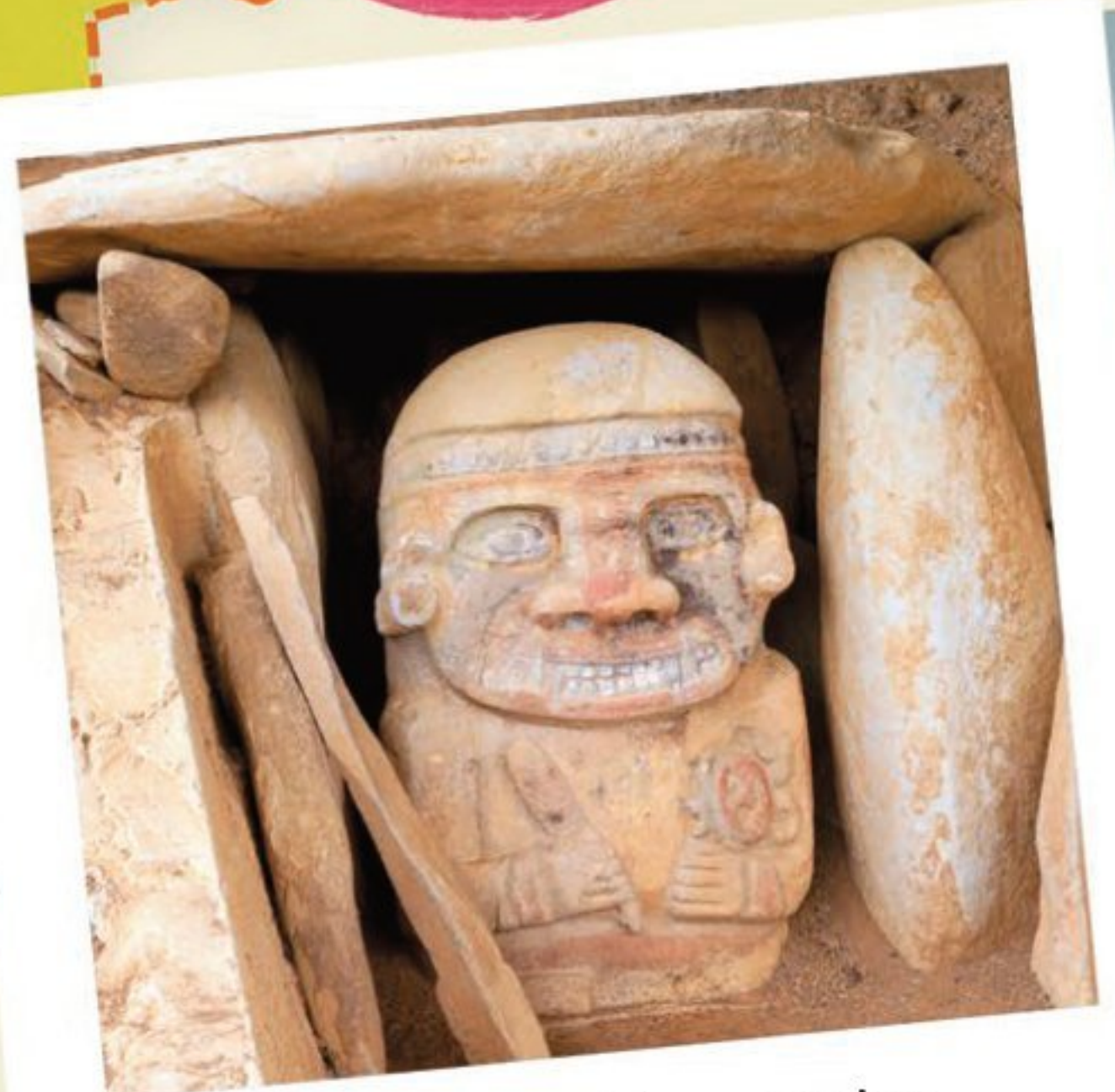


Angel Falls
The Angel Falls is the world's highest waterfall. Water plunges 3,212 ft (979 m) into the rain forest.

Bolívar helped several South American countries, including his home country of Venezuela, gain independence

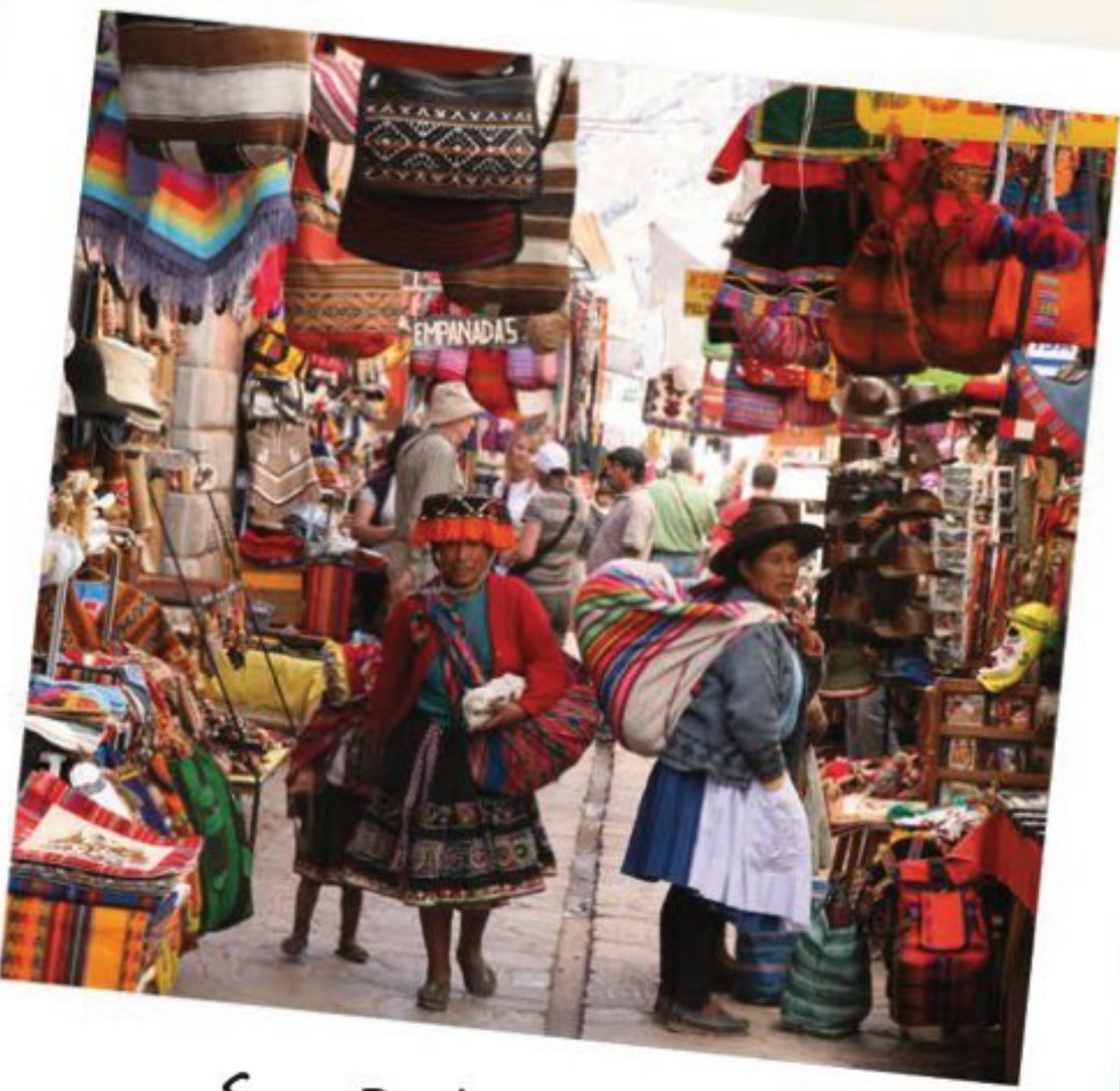


KEY	
PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Bananas	Oil
Coffee	Gas
Cut flowers	Nickel
Rice	Diamonds
Sugar cane	Pearls
Corn	Gold
ACTIVITIES	NATURAL FEATURES
Baseball	Emeralds
	Iron ore
	Palm oil
	Earthquakes
	Volcanoes



Pre-Columbian statue

San Agustín Park
This park is home to the largest group of ancient religious monuments in South America. Some of them are nearly 2,000 years old.



San Pedro market

Craft market

The native Quechua people live on traditional farms high up in the Andes. Cuzco's San Pedro market sells colorful Quechua textiles.

PERU

Peru has some stunning scenery, ranging from dense rain forest to snow-capped peaks. The Andes mountain range runs the length of the country and is a popular destination for hiking. Peru is known for its brightly colored, traditional textiles and its delicious fish and potato dishes.



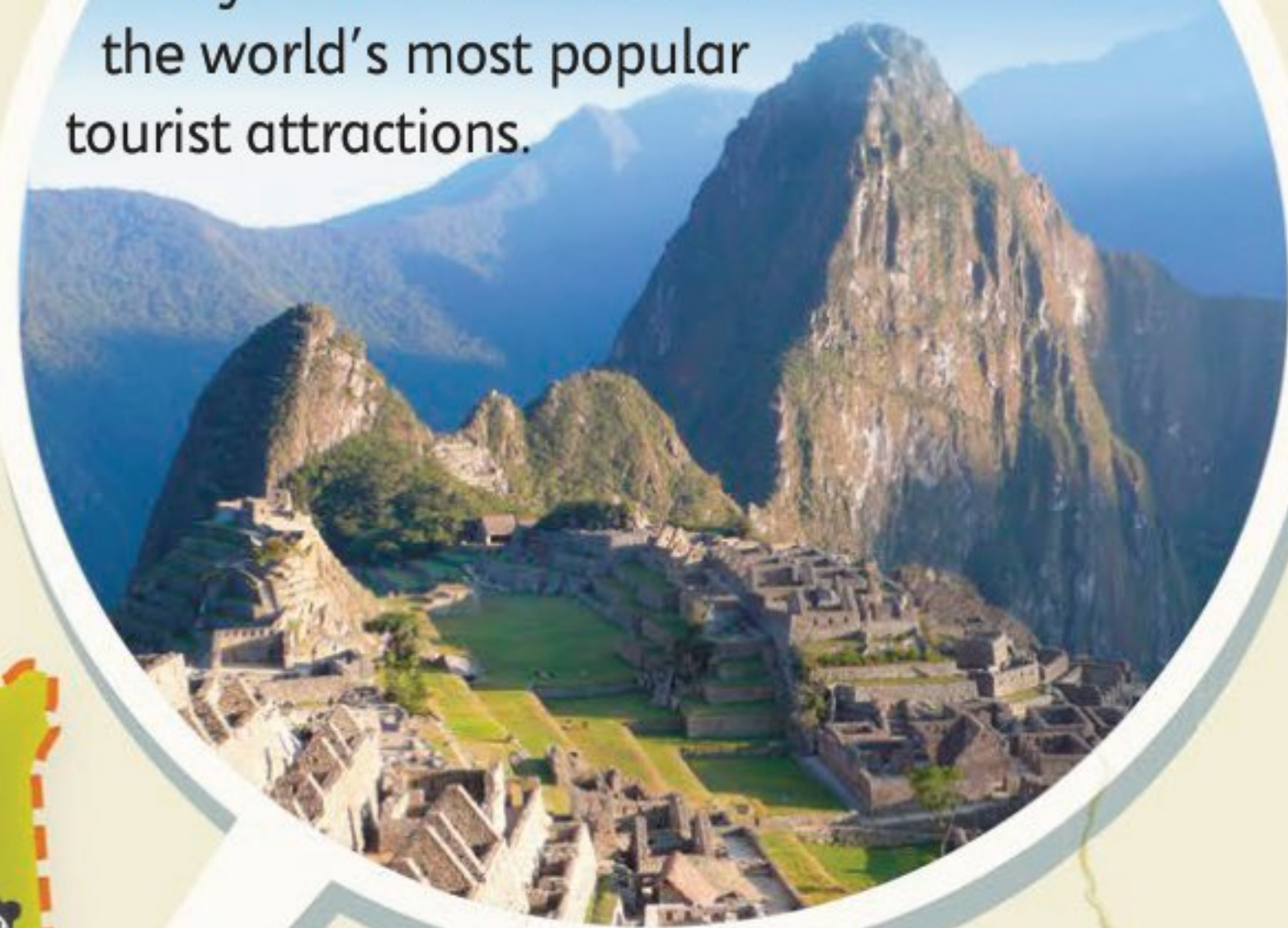
Emperor tamarin

This monkey lives in the Amazon rain forest. Both male and female adults have long, white mustaches.



Machu Picchu

Machu Picchu is an ancient Inca city in the Andes. Its ruins are one of the world's most popular tourist attractions.



KEY

PRODUCE

- Asparagus
- Coffee
- Sugar cane
- Quinoa

INDUSTRY

- Fishing
- Lumber
- Gold
- Silver
- Copper
- Cotton
- Iron ore

ACTIVITIES

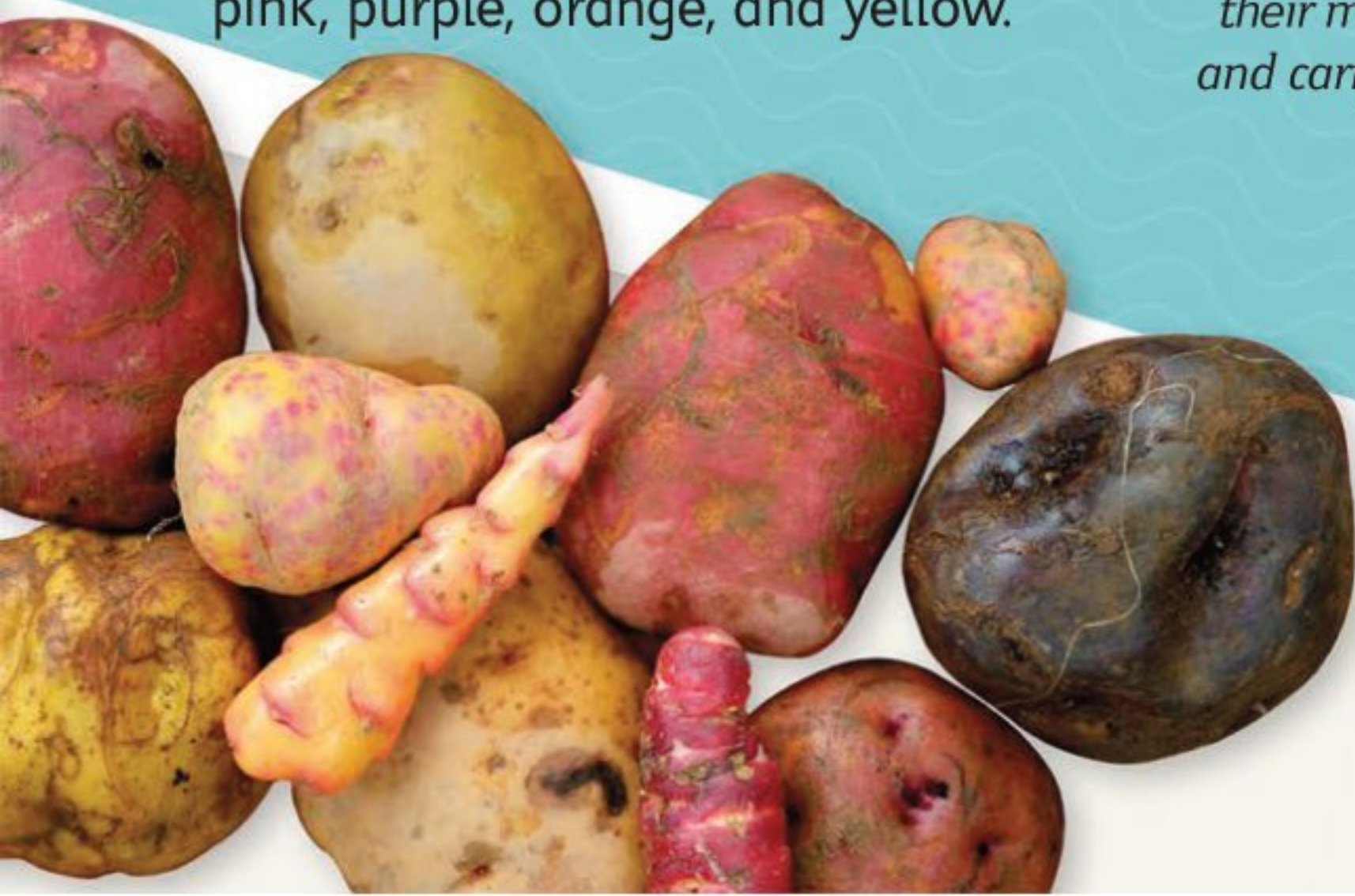
- Hiking

NATURAL FEATURES

- Earthquakes

Potatoes

Potatoes are native to Peru. More than 4,000 varieties grow here and come in many different sizes, shapes, and colors, including pink, purple, orange, and yellow.



Brazil is the largest country in South America and has a great variety of people and cultures. Most Brazilians live in big, crowded cities and speak Portuguese, the country's official language, while more than 200 tribal groups have their own unique languages.



The bright blue upper wings help these large butterflies to see each other in the dark forest

Rain forest life

The vast Amazon rain forest is packed with plant and animal life.

An amazing number of insect species live there—about 2.5 million!

Rain forest people

People have lived in the Amazon rain forest for thousands of years. The Yanomami are one of the largest tribes. They live in large, circular huts with palm leaf roofs.



Coffee and oranges

Brazil is the world's largest producer of oranges and coffee beans. About 75 percent of the orange crop is turned into juice and exported.

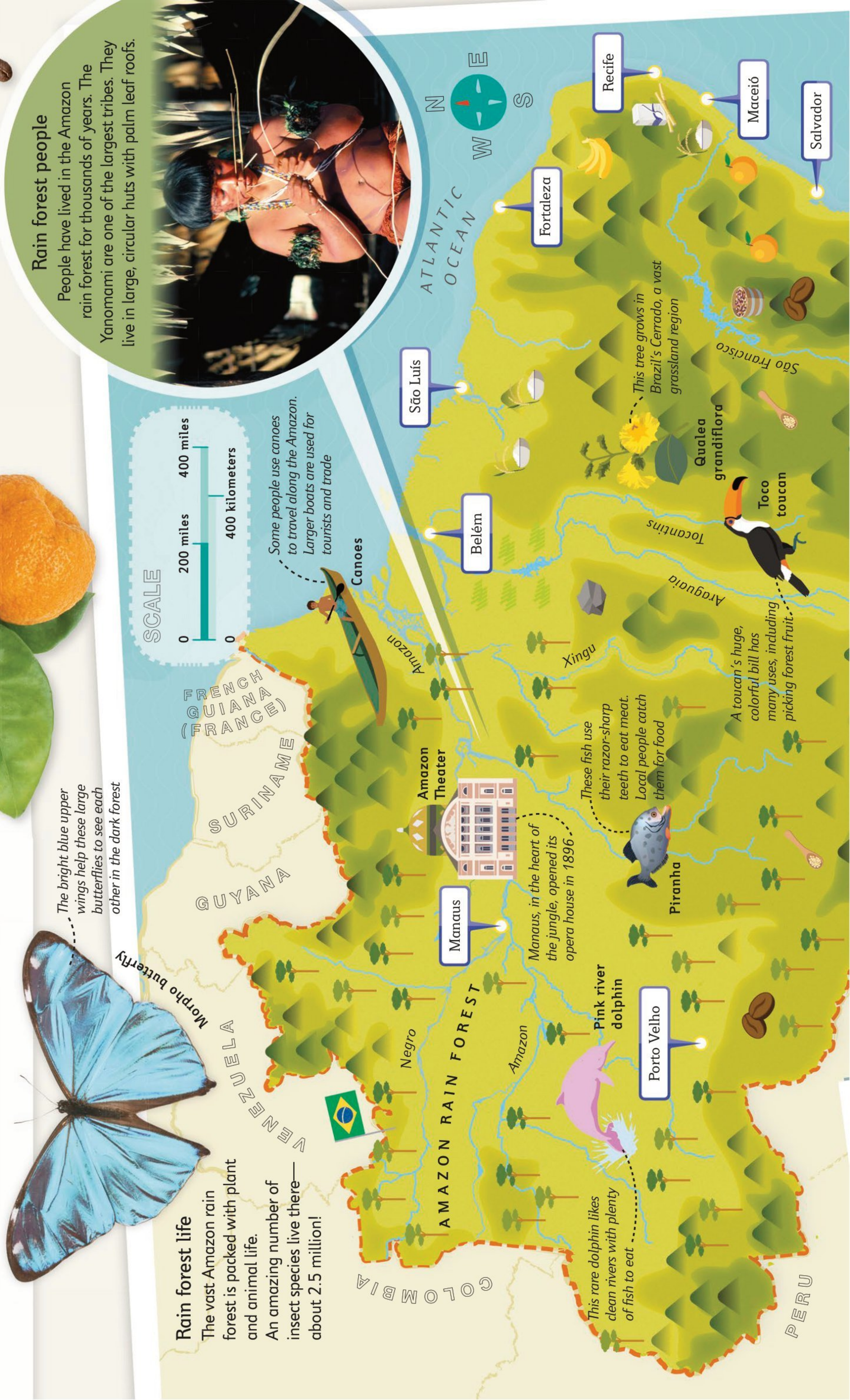
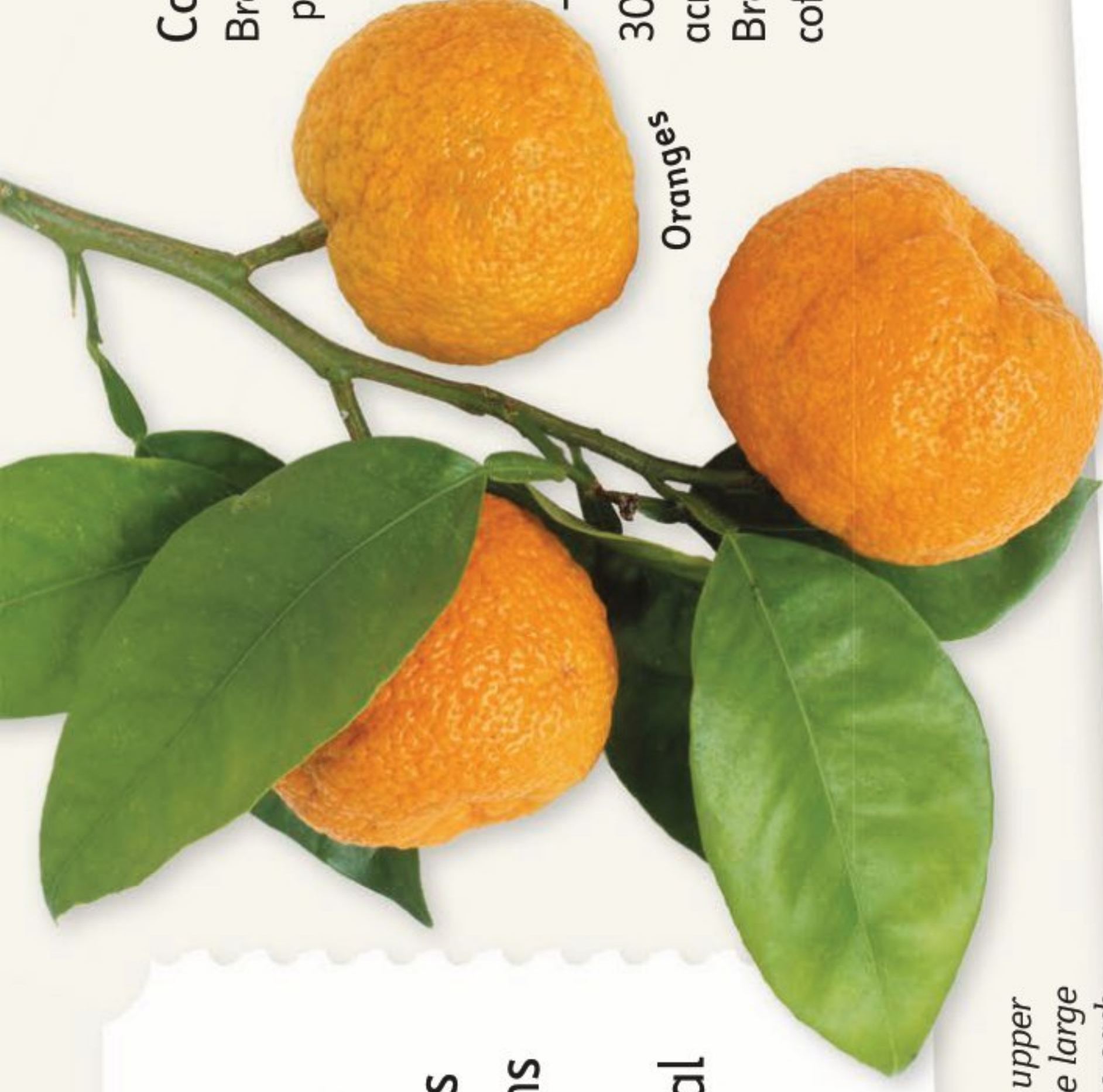
There are about

300,000 coffee farms

across the country, and Brazilians drink half of the coffee they produce.

Oranges

Coffee beans





Soccer on the beach

Soccer

Brazilians love soccer. Brazil has won the World Cup more times (five) than any other country. Many famous players come from Brazil, including Pelé, one of the greatest players of all time.

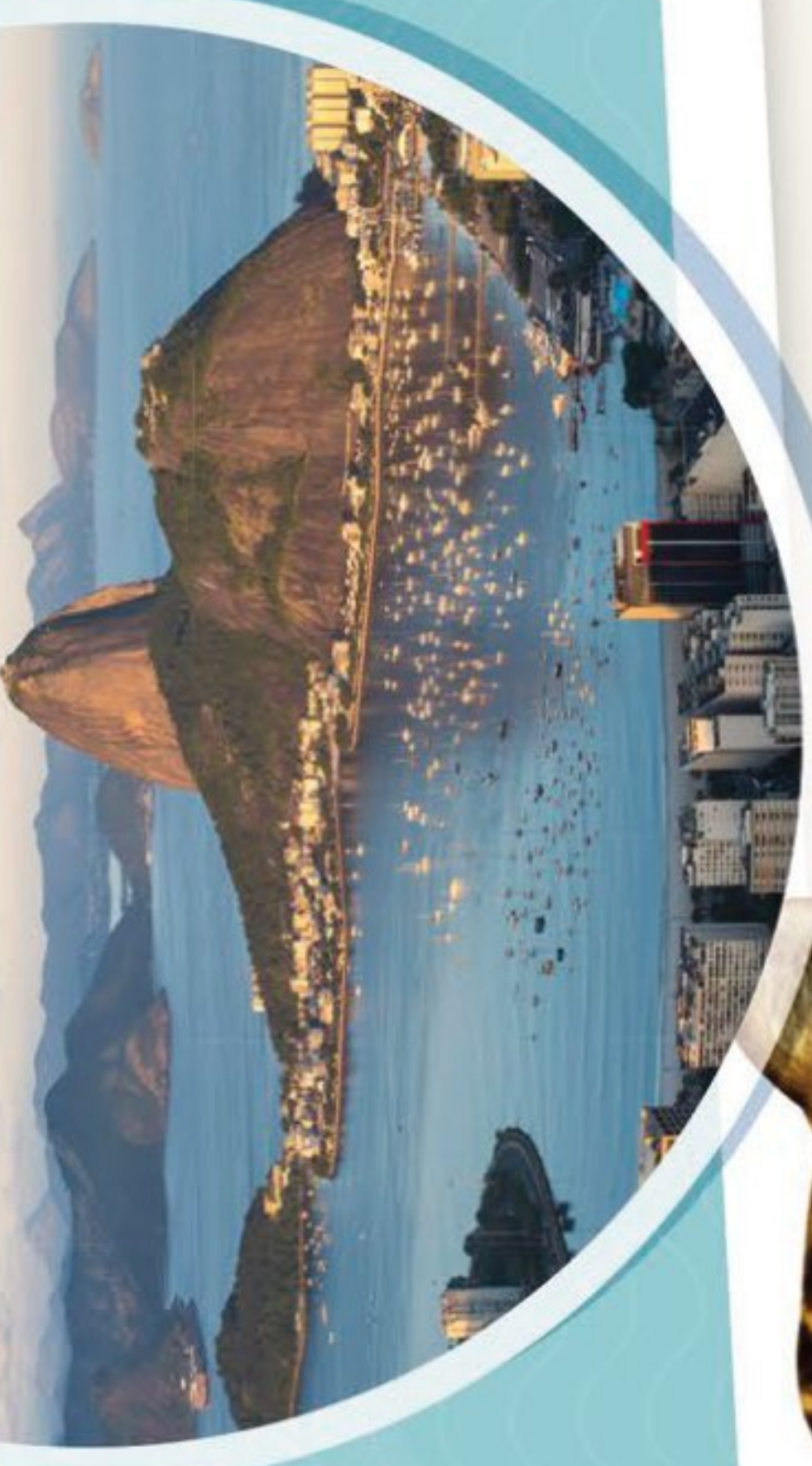
Iguaçu Falls

This spectacular series of waterfalls stretches across the border between Brazil and Argentina. The forests surrounding the falls are protected by two national parks.



Sugar Loaf Mountain

This domed mountain rises above Rio. Stunning views of the city can be enjoyed by people who take a cable car to the top. Rio was chosen to host the Summer Olympics in 2016.



Capoeira

This martial art involves music, dance, and acrobatics. Capoeira was developed in Brazil 500 years ago by people from West Africa, and it is a fun form of exercise.



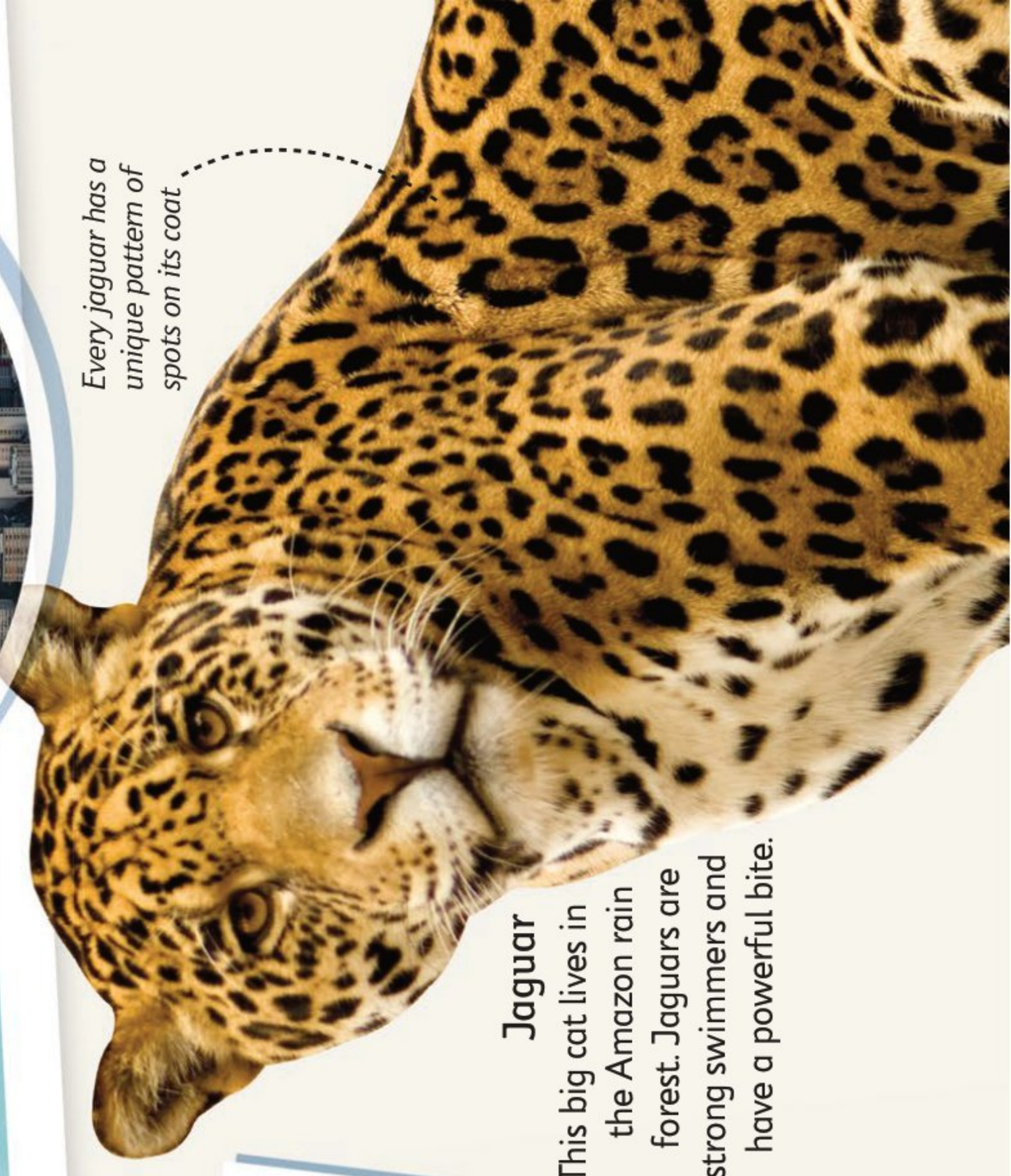
Acrobatic moves

KEY

PRODUCE	RESOURCES
Coffee	Gold
Oranges	Iron
Bananas	Diamonds
Soybeans	Oil
Dried beans	Hydroelectric power
Sugar cane	
Rice	
ACTIVITIES	
Soccer	

Jaguar

This big cat lives in the Amazon rain forest. Jaguars are strong swimmers and have a powerful bite.



Every jaguar has a unique pattern of spots on its coat

ARGENTINA AND CHILE

These two countries stretch across the southern part of South America. Between them lie the Andes mountains. Argentina's dramatic landscape includes the rugged hills of Patagonia, while Chile is a long, thin country with both desert and fertile farmland.

Atacama Desert

The Atacama Desert is one of the driest places on Earth. This strip of land between the Pacific Ocean and the Andes mountains receives little rainfall, because the mountains block the rain.



One of the world's most powerful observatories, which captures images of objects in outer space, is based in the Atacama Desert.

Antofagasta

Salt lakes and other deposits formed in the Atacama Desert when lakes dried out.

PACIFIC OCEAN

The snowy slopes of the Andes are perfect for skiing.

Fertile land

The land of Central Chile is rich and fertile. Here, fruits, such as juicy peaches, are grown in orchards. Grapes also flourish, and Chilean wine is exported all over the world.



Tango dancers

Argentine tango

This Latin American style of dance originated in Buenos Aires. Dancers hold one another close and walk together in time to the music, with one partner taking the lead.

Highest vineyard

The highest vineyard in the world lies at 10,200 ft (3,111 m) in the Calchaquí Valley in northern Argentina.



Maned wolves look like a small wolf or a large red fox, but are a different species, unique to the grasslands of South America.

Maned wolf

San Miguel de Tucumán

The successful Argentinian soccer team has a big rivalry with neighboring Brazil.

Soccer

Rodeo is Chile's national sport—pairs of riders known as "Huasos" work together to round up cattle.

Huaso rodeo

Valparaíso

Santiago

Mendoza

Córdoba

Rosario

Pampas grass

Tall species of flowering grass grow in the lowland grasslands of the Pampas.

ARGENTINA

PARAGUAY

BRAZIL

URUGUAY

Bermejo

Paraná

BOLIVIA

This mine is one of the largest open-cast (surface) copper mines in the world.

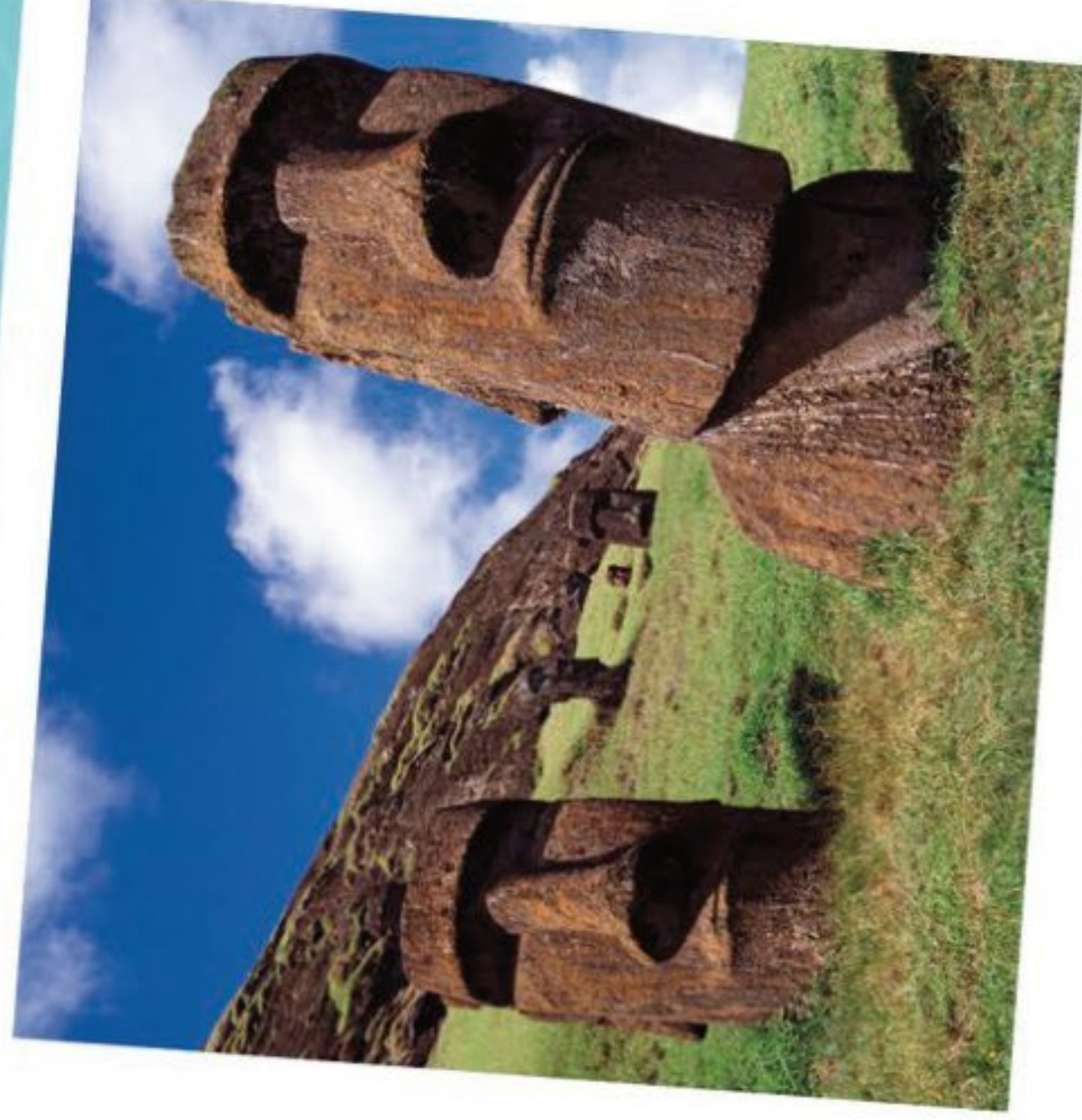
Chiquiamata copper mine

ALMA space observatory

Salt lakes

Salta

SCALE



Stone heads

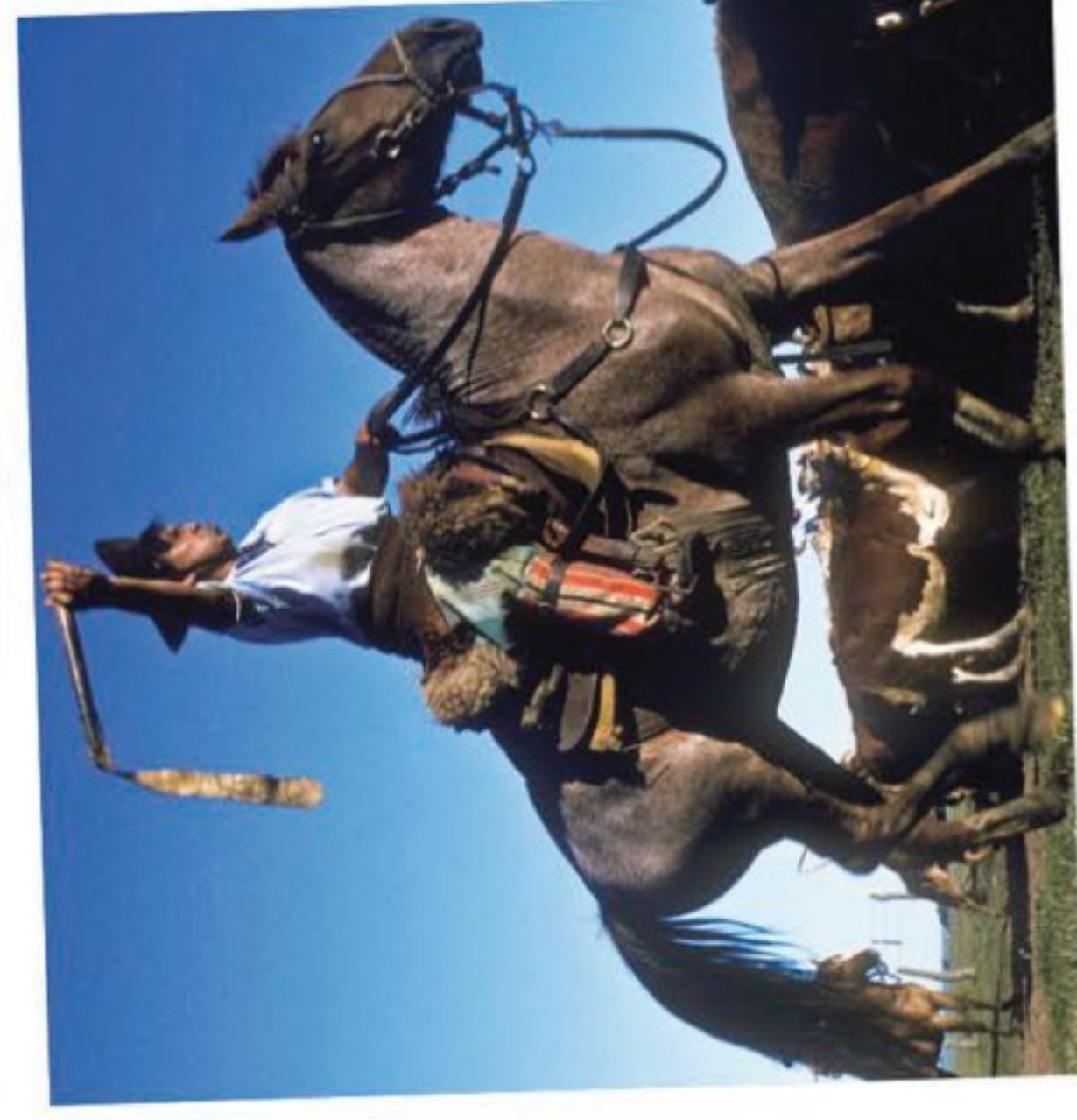
Easter Island

This Chilean island lies in the Pacific Ocean, 2,290 miles (3,686 km) west of the mainland. It is known for its huge stone statues, called moai, that were carved by local people hundreds of years ago.



Alpacas

Alpacas are kept in herds high in the mountains of northern Chile. Their thick hair can be woven to make blankets, hats, and sweaters.



Gaucha herding cattle

Cattle herding

Beef cattle is an important industry on the flat, treeless plains of the Pampas. Argentine cowboys, known as "gauchos," herd the cattle on huge ranches.

POPULATION

The number of people living in the world is growing fast. In 1800, the world's population was about 1 billion. Today, there are more than 7.3 billion people worldwide. More than half of these people live in cities, rather than in the countryside. The population is growing because of healthier eating and better health care, which means that people are living longer.

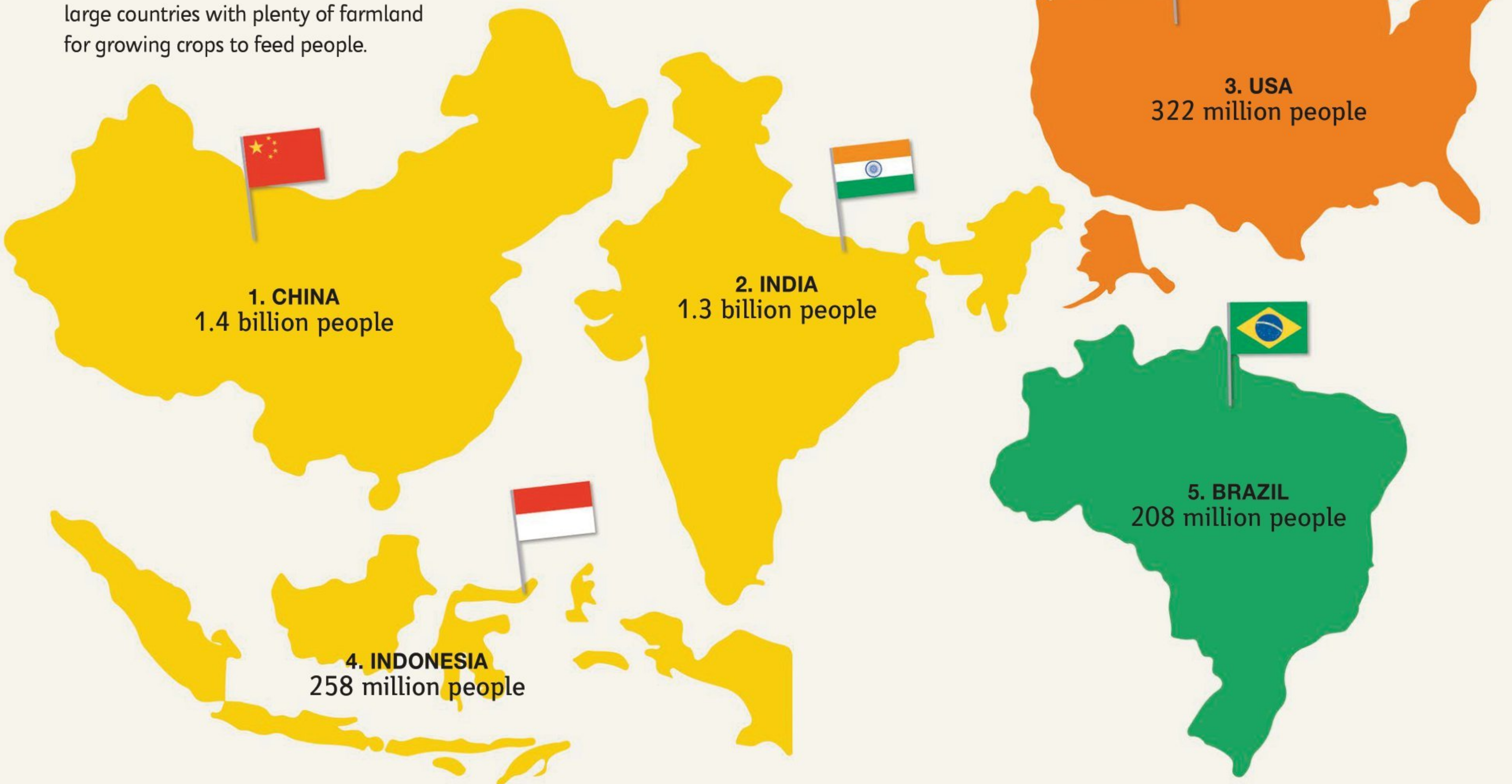
Emptiest country

The emptiest country in the world is Mongolia, with an average of about five people for every square mile of land (about two people per square kilometer).



Most populated countries

These five countries have the biggest populations in the world. They are all large countries with plenty of farmland for growing crops to feed people.

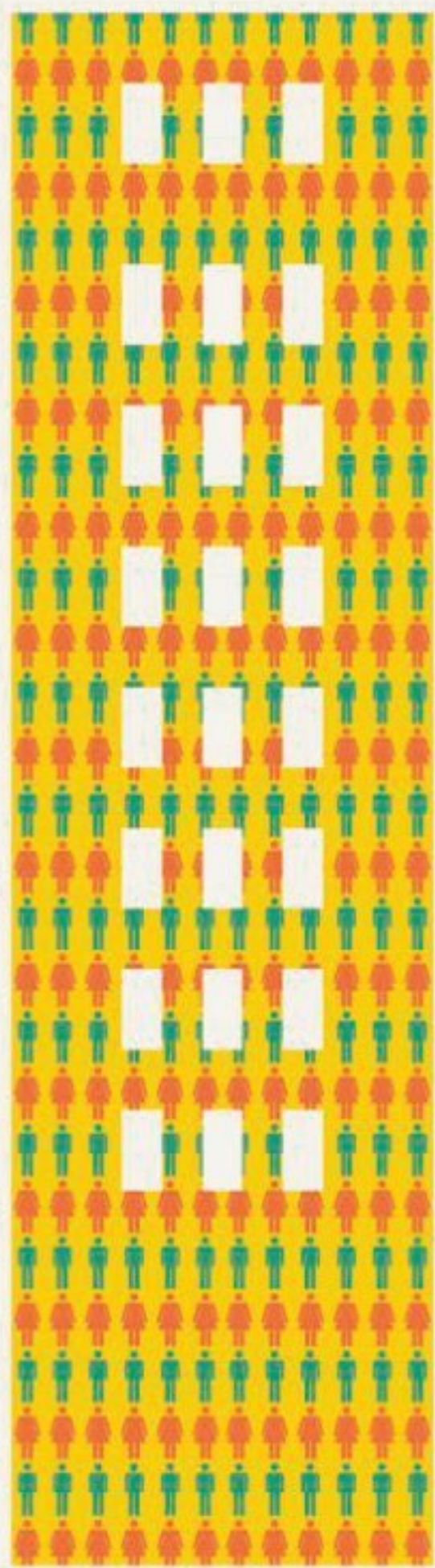


Who lives where?

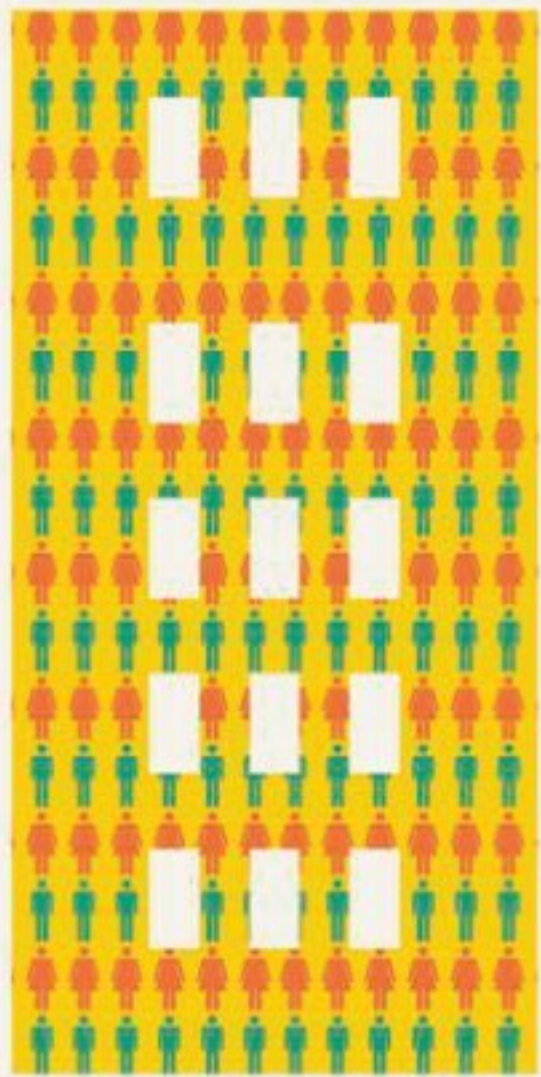
This chart shows the percentage of the world's population in each continent. Asia is by far the world's most populated continent.

ASIA
60%

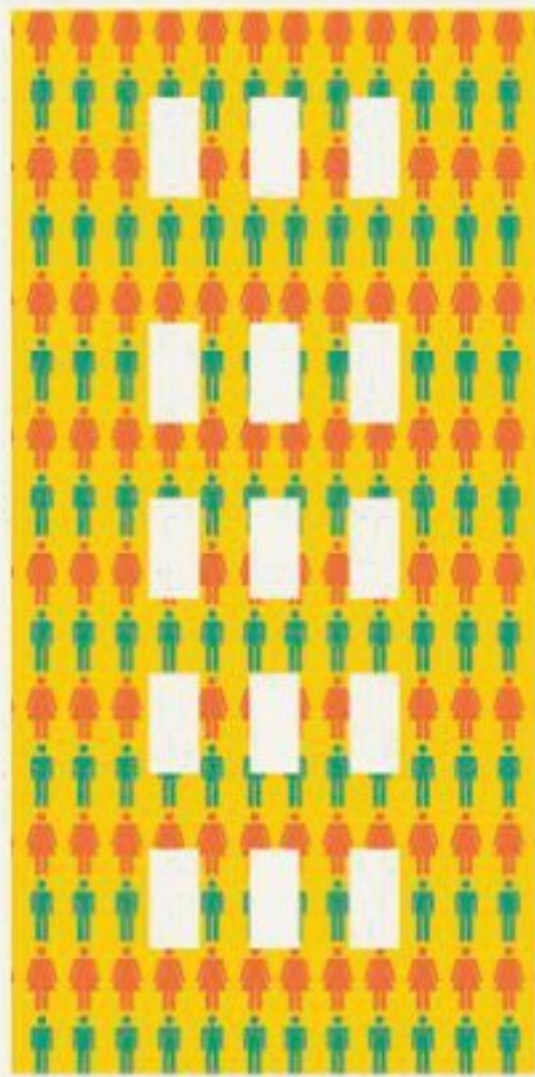




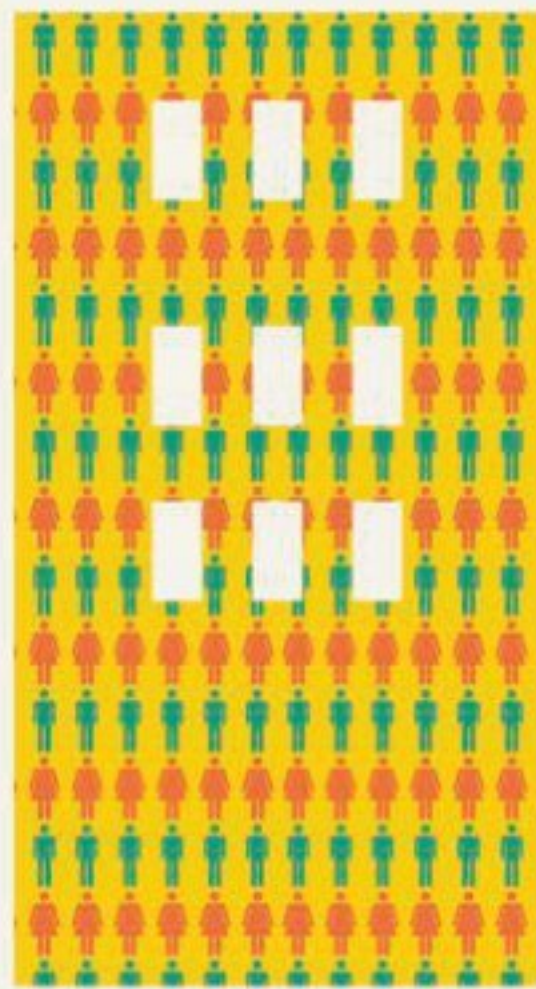
**Tokyo,
Japan,
Asia**
38 million people



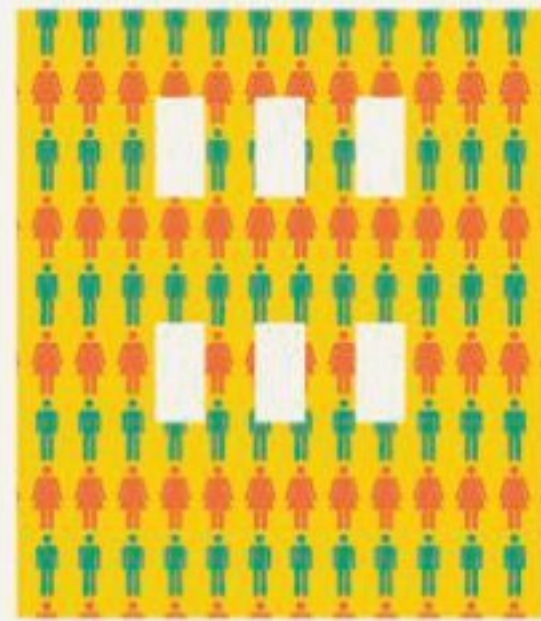
**Mexico City,
Mexico,
North America**
21 million people



**São Paulo,
Brazil,
South America**
21 million people



**Cairo,
Egypt,
Africa**
19 million people



**Moscow,
Russia,
Europe**
12 million people



**Sydney,
Australia,
Australasia**
5 million people

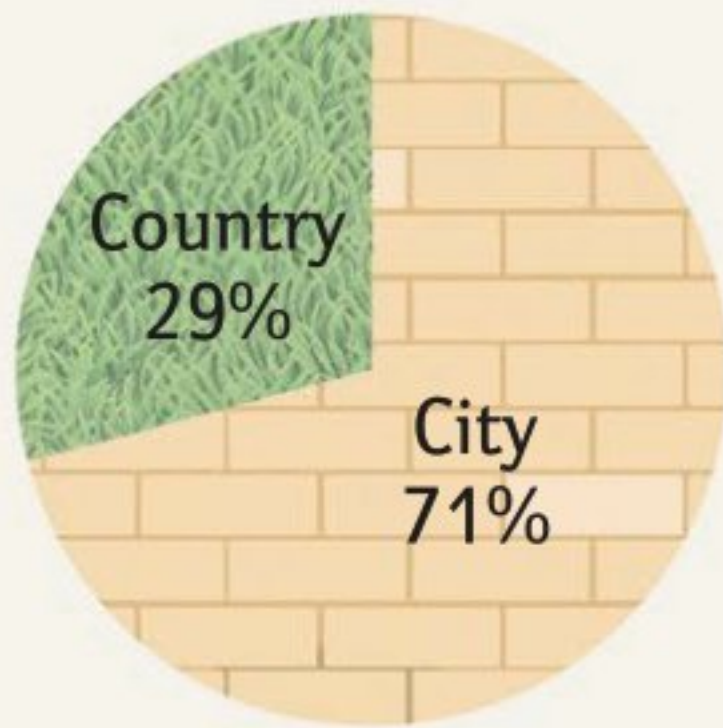
The Greater Tokyo area has nearly the same population as the whole of Canada!

City versus countryside

In many parts of the world, cities are growing fast. People are moving, or migrating, from rural areas (the countryside) into towns and cities. Worldwide, about 54 percent of people live in cities and about 46 percent live in the countryside.



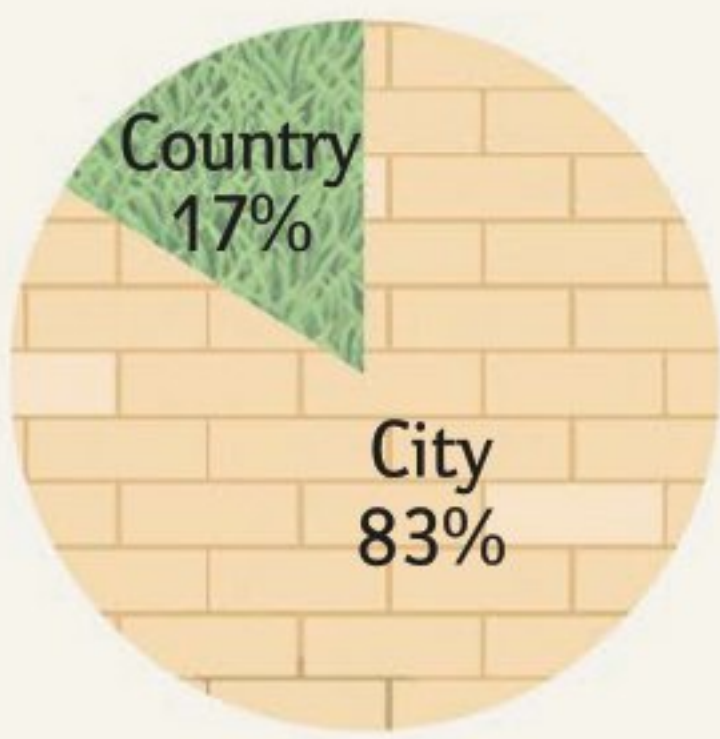
ASIA



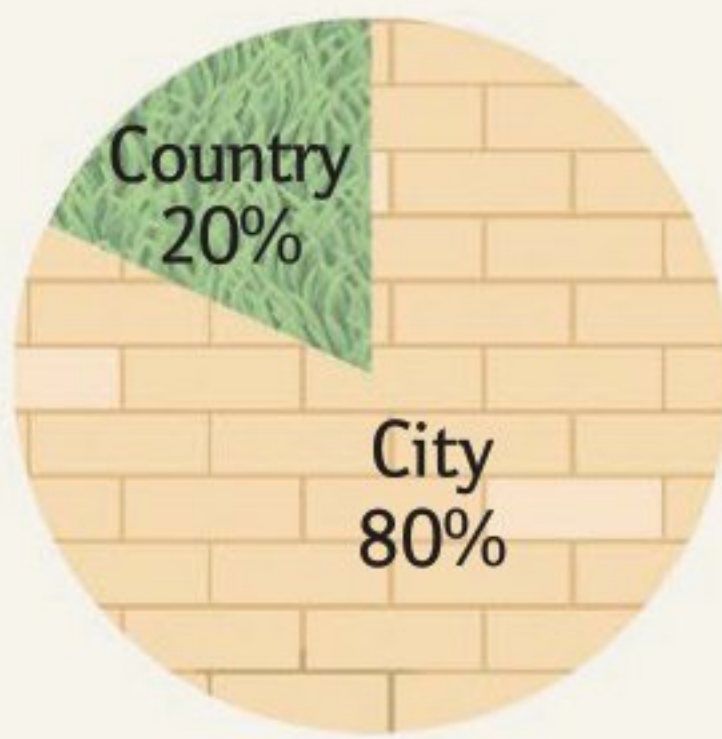
AUSTRALASIA



AFRICA



SOUTH AMERICA



NORTH AMERICA



EUROPE

LARGEST CHILD POPULATION



India is the country with the most children. It has about 450 million children. This is about 40 percent of India's population.

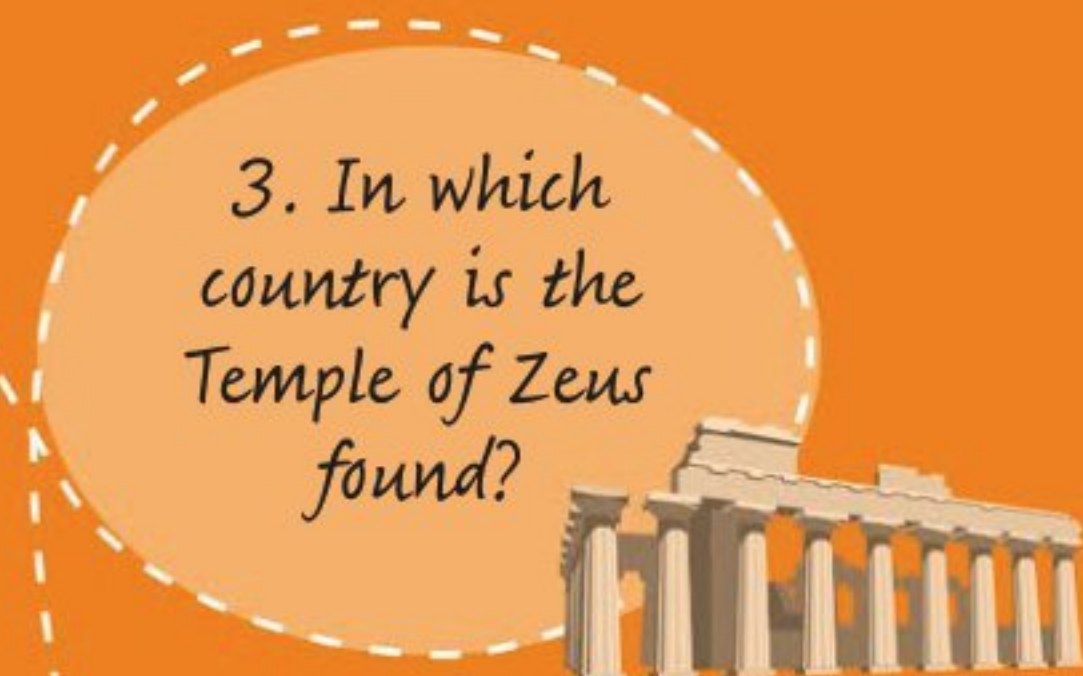


4. What are Egypt's white-sailed river boats called?

3. In which country is the Temple of Zeus found?

1. Which North African desert people wear blue robes?

2. From which country do many great long-distance runners come?





6. In which country is Kruger National Park?



AFRICA

Africa is a land of contrasts, with hundreds of different cultural groups. From Cairo in Egypt to Cape Town in South Africa, Africa is developing fast. There is a large population of young people who are bringing major changes to society.

5. Where might you spot a bonabo?



8. The baobab is the national tree of which country?



You can find all the answers and more quizzes on pages 120-121.

7. In which country would you find a museum of steam trains?



AFRICA

Africa is the world's second largest continent. The dry countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea in the north are cut off from the rest of Africa by the Sahara Desert. South of the Sahara are grassy plains and tropical rain forests, where many unique wild animals live.



West African market

Busy markets are found all over West Africa. They are a good source of income for many people, who will travel long distances to sell their goods and produce.

Sahara Desert

The Sahara is the world's largest hot desert. It stretches from Mauritania in the west to Sudan in the east. Camels are still used to carry goods across the sandy dunes.





Nile River

This is the world's longest river. It flows north through 11 countries, from Tanzania to Egypt's Mediterranean coast. Many early civilizations flourished along the Nile's banks, using its waters to grow crops and as a trading route.



Table Mountain

This magnificent mountain overlooks the city of Cape Town in South Africa. Its large, flat top makes it look like a table, and it is often covered by white clouds, which are nicknamed "the tablecloth."



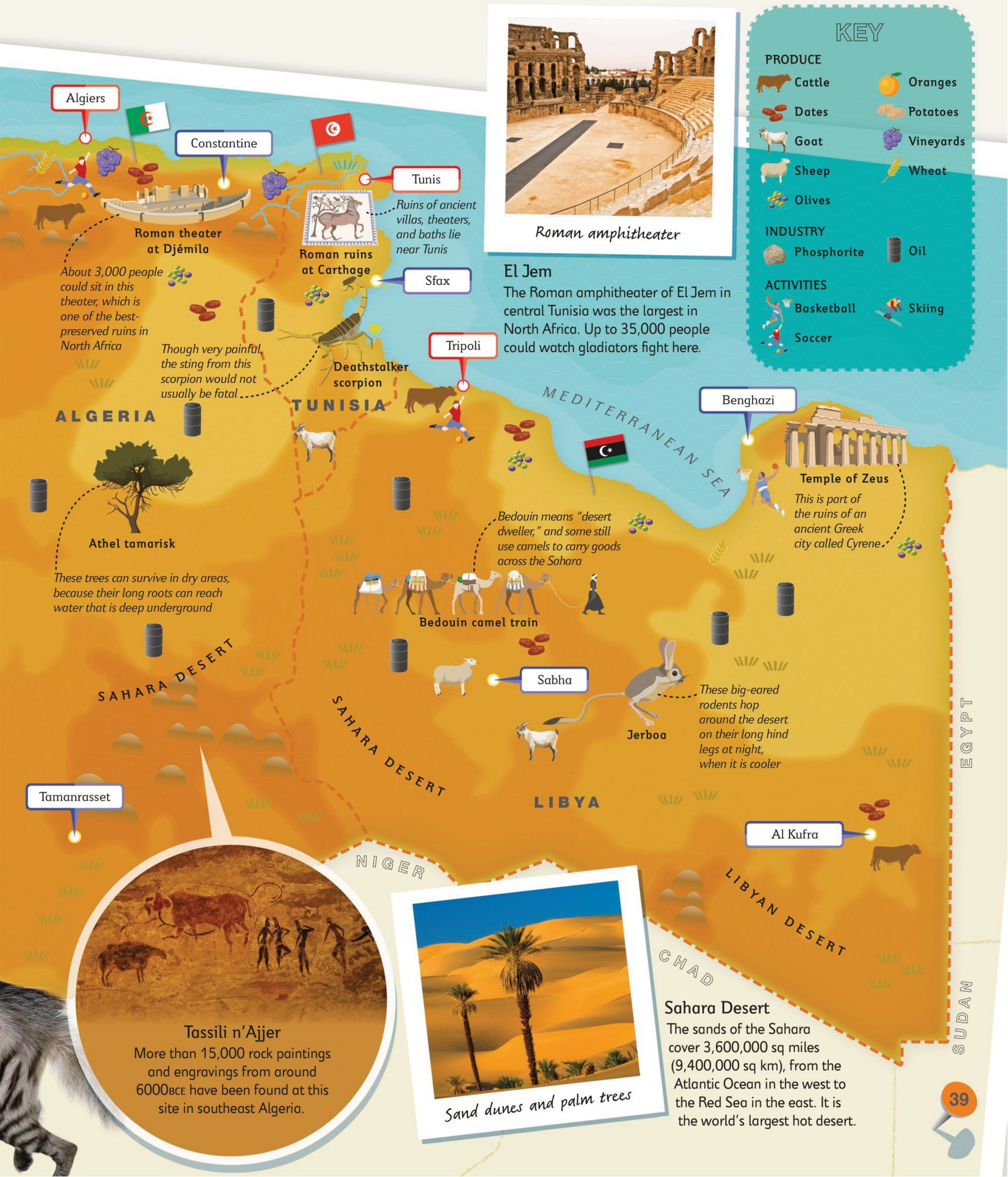
Game reserve

Many African countries have set up game reserves to protect their wild animals, such as lions, elephants, and wildebeest, from hunters.

NORTH AFRICA

The four countries of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya sit side by side at the northern end of Africa. Towns and cities are dotted along the Mediterranean coast, where lively markets are found alongside ancient ruins. Vast areas of North Africa are sandy desert, with rich oil reserves in some places.





KEY

PRODUCE

- Cattle
- Dates
- Goat
- Sheep
- Olives
- Oranges
- Potatoes
- Vineyards
- Wheat

INDUSTRY

- Phosphorite
- Oil

ACTIVITIES

- Basketball
- Soccer
- Skiing



Roman amphitheater

El Jem

The Roman amphitheater of El Jem in central Tunisia was the largest in North Africa. Up to 35,000 people could watch gladiators fight here.



Temple of Zeus

This is part of the ruins of an ancient Greek city called Cyrene.



Roman ruins at Carthage

Ruins of ancient villas, theaters, and baths lie near Tunis



Deathstalker scorpion

Though very painful, the sting from this scorpion would not usually be fatal



Bedouin camel train

Bedouin means "desert dweller," and some still use camels to carry goods across the Sahara



Jerboa

These big-eared rodents hop around the desert on their long hind legs at night, when it is cooler



Athel tamarisk

These trees can survive in dry areas, because their long roots can reach water that is deep underground

SAHARA DESERT

SAHARA DESERT

LIBYA

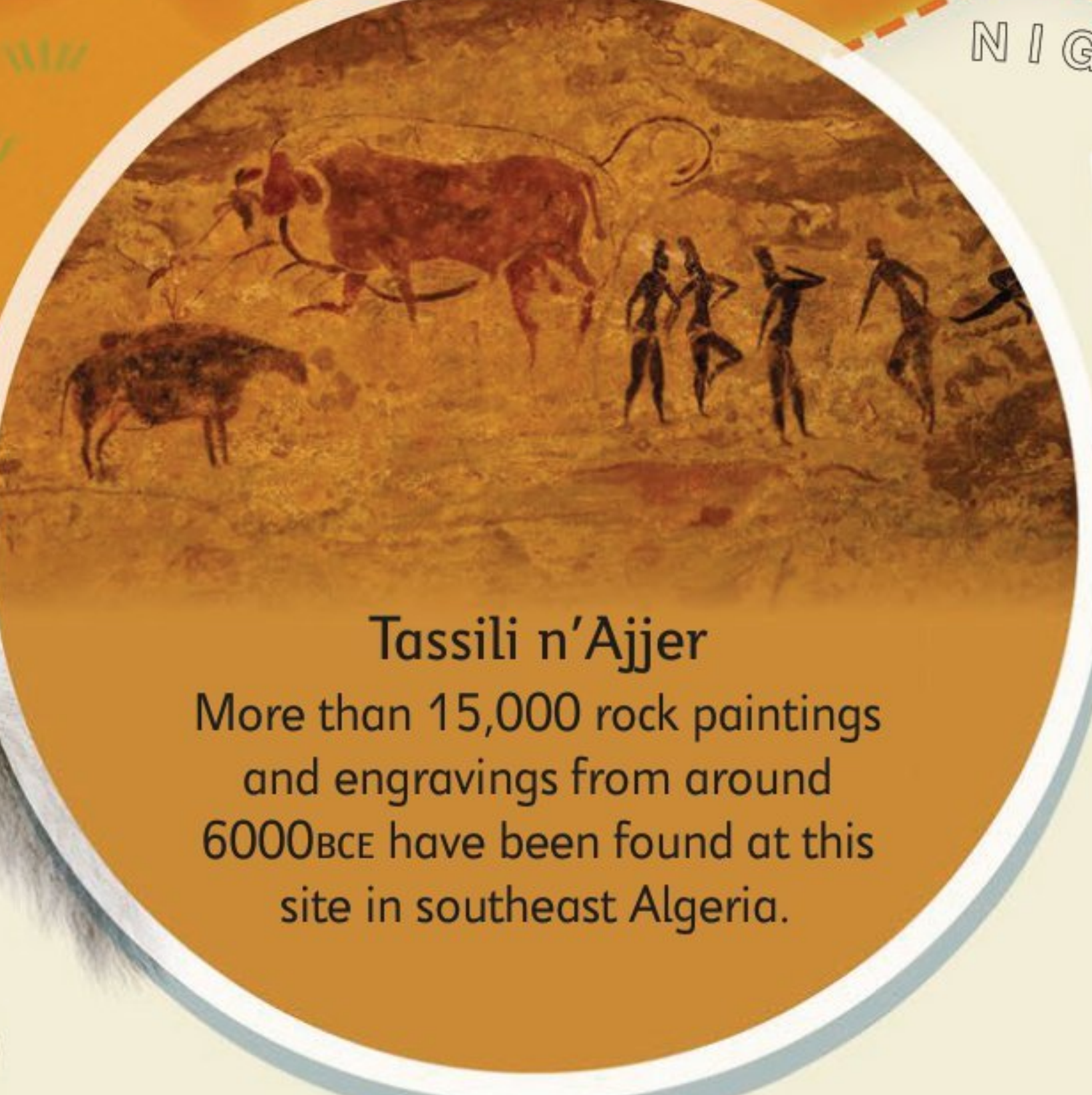
NIGER

LIBYAN DESERT

CHAD

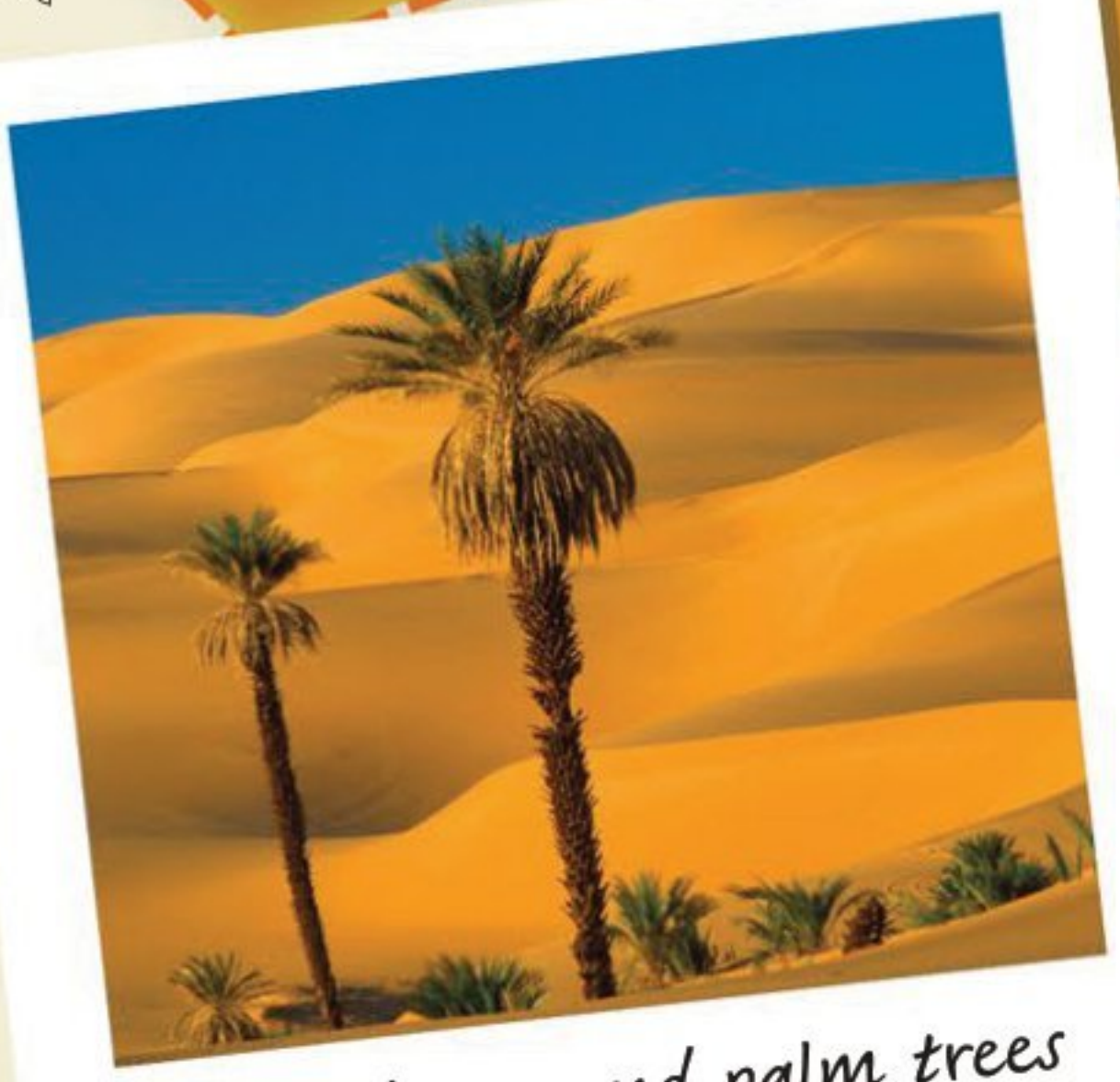
EGYPT

SUDAN



Tassili n'Ajjer

More than 15,000 rock paintings and engravings from around 6000 BCE have been found at this site in southeast Algeria.



Sand dunes and palm trees

Sahara Desert

The sands of the Sahara cover 3,600,000 sq miles (9,400,000 sq km), from the Atlantic Ocean in the west to the Red Sea in the east. It is the world's largest hot desert.

EGYPT

Much of Egypt is made up of dry, sandy desert, and so most people live along the banks of the Nile River. This river, the longest in the world, is a vital source of water for drinking and farming. Thousands of years ago, pharaohs (kings) built pyramids along the Nile, some of which are still standing.

Mummy case
Ancient Egyptians preserved, or mummified, bodies. The specially treated body was wrapped in bandages and the mummy was then placed in a decorated case.

KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Rice	Oil
Wheat	Fishing
Oranges	ACTIVITIES
Dates	Scuba diving
Cotton	NATURAL FEATURES
	Coral reef



Pyramids

These massive structures were built as tombs for the bodies of dead pharaohs and their queens. The three most famous pyramids are at Giza.



Rescued ruins

When the Aswan Dam was built, it created a large reservoir called Lake Nasser. Two ancient temples had to be moved from the area that was flooded.



Cotton tunic

Egyptian cobra

Great Temples at Abu Simbel

Felucca

Camels

Camels are still used for transportation in Egypt because they can survive in very dry conditions, and so can travel long distances across the desert.

Cotton

Cool and comfortable cotton tunics are a common form of dress in this hot country. Egyptian cotton is known for its high quality.



Yellowfin tuna

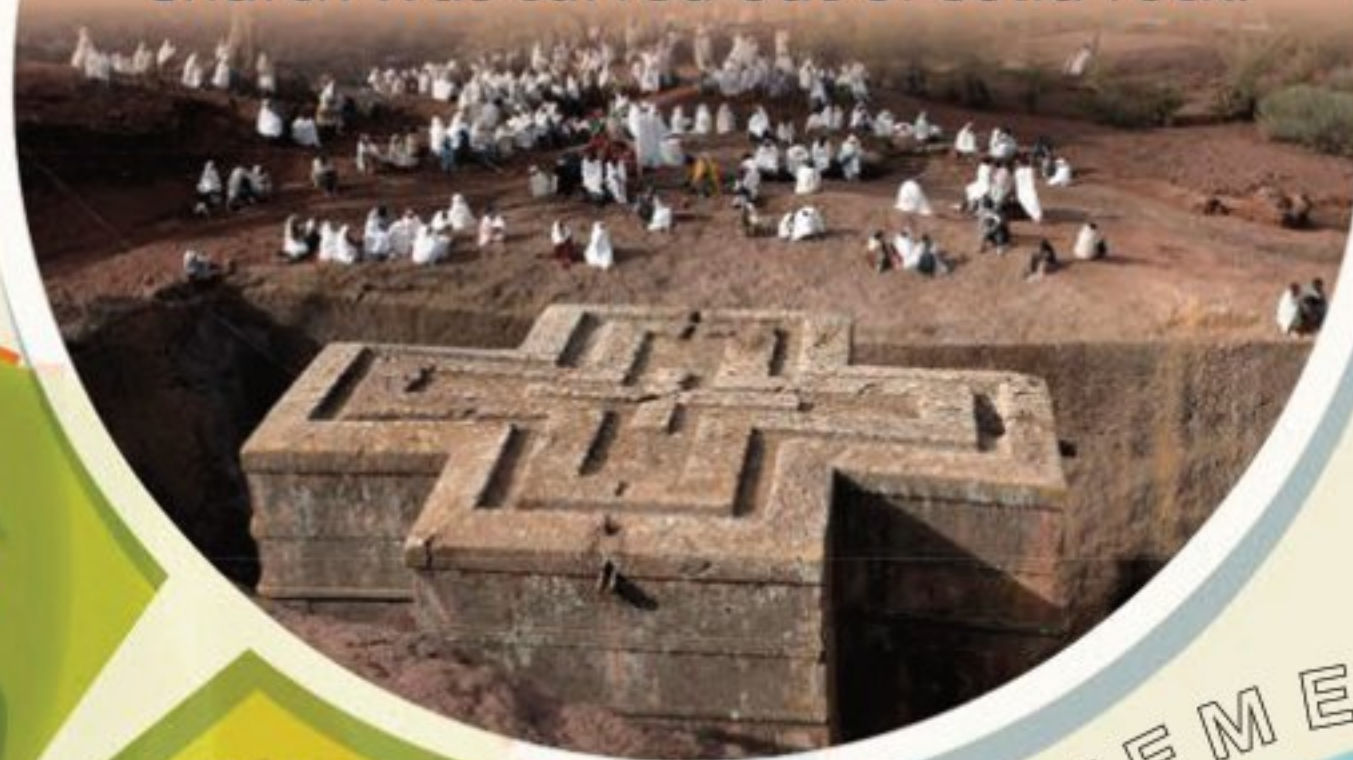
Huge yellowfin tuna swim in the Indian Ocean, off the coast of Kenya. Large numbers are caught and exported to markets all over the world.

Yellowfin tuna

These baboons are only found in the Ethiopian Highlands.

Church of St. George

This important place of pilgrimage for the Ethiopian Orthodox Christian Church was carved out of solid rock.



KEY

PRODUCE

- | | |
|--------|----------|
| Wheat | Coconuts |
| Corn | Ensete |
| Teff | Cattle |
| Coffee | Sheep |
| Tea | Goats |

ACTIVITIES

- Safari

Ethiopian food

Ethiopians eat lots of injera. This spongy bread is an important part of most meals and is used, instead of a spoon or fork, to scoop up food.



Injera

Salam!
Hello

SCALE



Huge flocks of pink flamingos gather to feed in Kenya's lakes.

Roses and other flowers grown in Kenya are exported for sale in Europe.



Giraffe Manor

Giraffes roam the grounds of this hotel, which looks after endangered species. The giraffes often poke their heads through the hotel's windows, hoping to receive a tasty snack.



Jambo!
Hello

ETHIOPIA AND KENYA

Some of Africa's most spectacular scenery is found in Ethiopia and Kenya. Ethiopia has high mountains where coffee is grown. Thousands of tourists visit Kenya every year to view the many different types of wildlife that live on the plains.

The Maasai

The Maasai people live in southern Kenya and northern Tanzania. Their warriors perform traditional dances.



Maasai warriors

Many of the world's best long-distance runners are from Kenya.

Giraffes enjoy munching the leaves of this thorny tree.

Groups of these big cats roam the plains of Kenya.

Lesser flamingo

Lion

Nakuru

Roses
Lake Victoria

Long-distance runner

Nairobi

Mombasa

Jambo!
Hello

Galana

Acacia

SOMALIA

INDIAN OCEAN

TANZANIA

Blue Nile

Lake Tana

Mek'ele

Bahir Dar

Lalibela

Addis Ababa

Dire Dawa

Hawassa

Coffee culture

In Ethiopia, strong, dark coffee is made and served in a special ceremony.

Shebelle

ETHIOPIA

ETHIOPIAN HIGHLANDS

SUDAN

ERITREA

YEMEN

DJIBOUTI

SOUTH SUDAN

UGANDA

NIGERIA

About 175 million people live in Nigeria, more than in any other African country. Many different tribal groups live here, each with its own colorful traditions, handicrafts, and music. Nigeria is also Africa's largest producer of oil, and has several oil rigs in the Gulf of Guinea.

Tribal traditions

The Yoruba are one of Nigeria's largest tribal groups. Their traditional dress includes brightly patterned fabrics and beautiful, finely carved ivory bracelets.

Ivory bracelet

Yoruba cloth

KEY

PRODUCE

Cocoa
 Yams

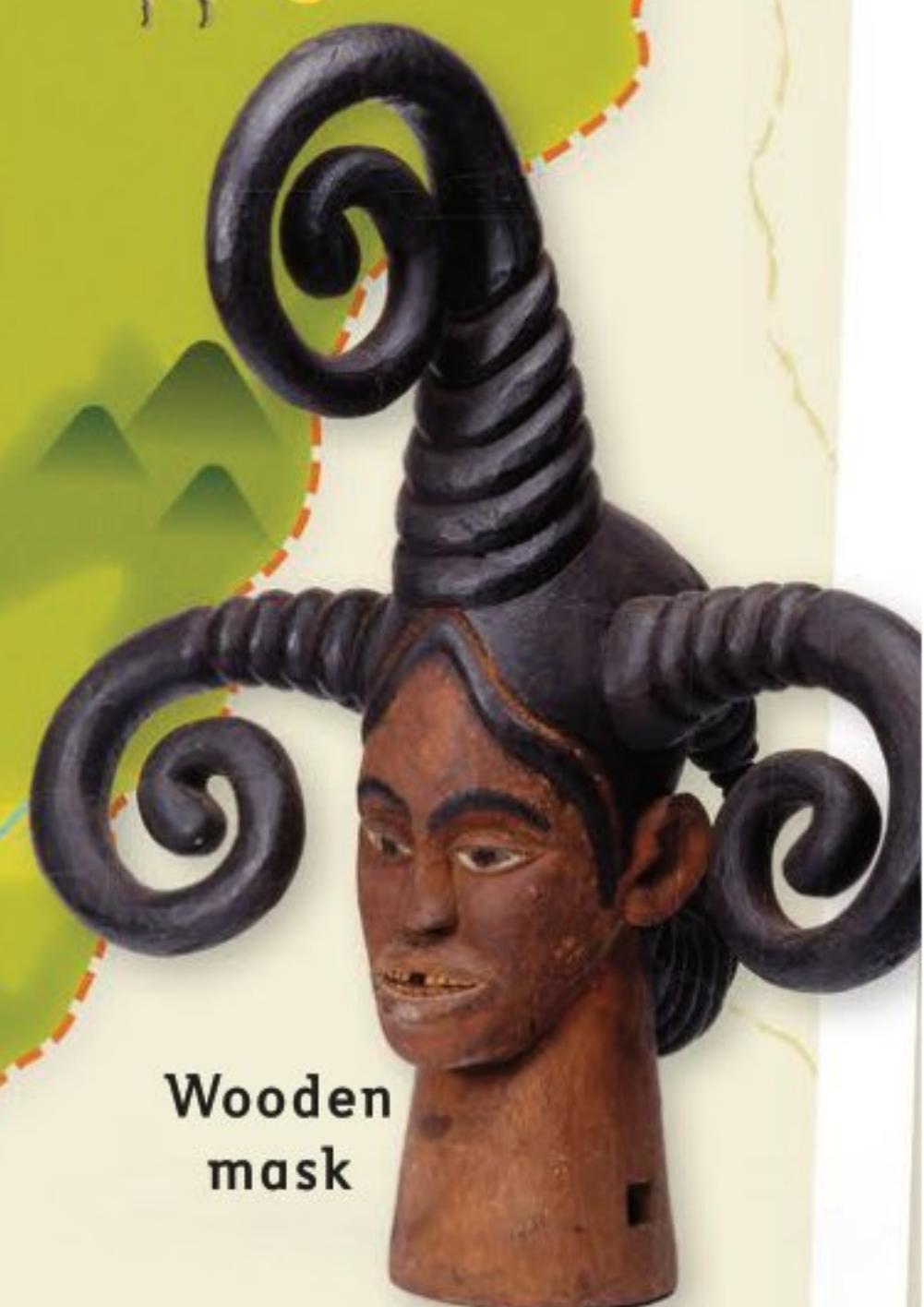
Rubber
 Cotton

Palm oil
 Cattle

Peanuts
 Goats

INDUSTRY

Oil
 Hydroelectric power



Wooden mask

Ritual masks

Wooden masks are traditionally worn in parts of Nigeria to ward off evil spirits.

Street food

Nigerian street food includes some spicy dishes. Jollof rice contains chili, and suya is strips of barbecued meat on a stick with different spices in the seasoning.

Pepper sauce



Jollof rice



Suya

GHANA AND THE IVORY COAST

Ghana was once known as the Gold Coast because of its plentiful gold; the Ivory Coast used to be a center for the trade in ivory (elephant tusks). Today, both countries grow cocoa beans, which are used to make some of the world's finest chocolate.

Plantain and okra

West Africa has lots of fertile farming land. Plantains, a type of banana used in cooking, are grown. Another common crop is okra. This is a long, thin vegetable that is often known as "ladies' fingers."



KEY

PRODUCE

	Coffee		Corn
	Cocoa		Coconuts
	Bananas		Yams
	Pineapples		Cassavas
	Rubber		Cattle
	Palm oil		Goats
	Rice		

INDUSTRY

	Iron		Oil
	Gold		Natural gas
	Bauxite		Diamonds



Typical voodoo facepaint

Voodoo festivals

Festivals celebrating the traditional voodoo religion take place in southern Ghana. People paint patterns on their faces using white paint.

Pygmy hippopotamus

This small hippopotamus lives in the forests and swamps of West Africa. It only ventures out at night, so is rarely seen.



KEY

PRODUCE



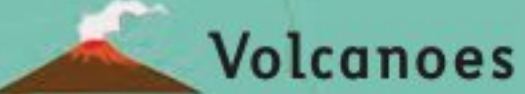
INDUSTRY



ACTIVITIES



NATURAL FEATURES



Mountain gorillas

Virunga National Park

Africa's oldest national park was created in 1925, mainly to provide a safe home for mountain gorillas and other local wildlife. Years of war nearly destroyed the park, but it is now back in safe hands. Thousands of tourists visit the park every year.

Bonjour!
Hello

Sapeurs

The sapeurs are a group who like to wear finely tailored clothes. They live by a gentlemanly code of conduct, in keeping with their stylish dress.



CONGO (DRC)

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is the largest African country south of the Sahara Desert. The world's deepest river, the Congo, runs all across the country, and some of Africa's Great Lakes lie on its eastern border. The Congo rain forest is the second largest in the world.



Cobalt mine

Mining

Many valuable minerals are mined in the Congo area, including cobalt. Cobalt has been used since ancient times to give a rich blue color to paints. It is also used in medicine, batteries, and electronic equipment.

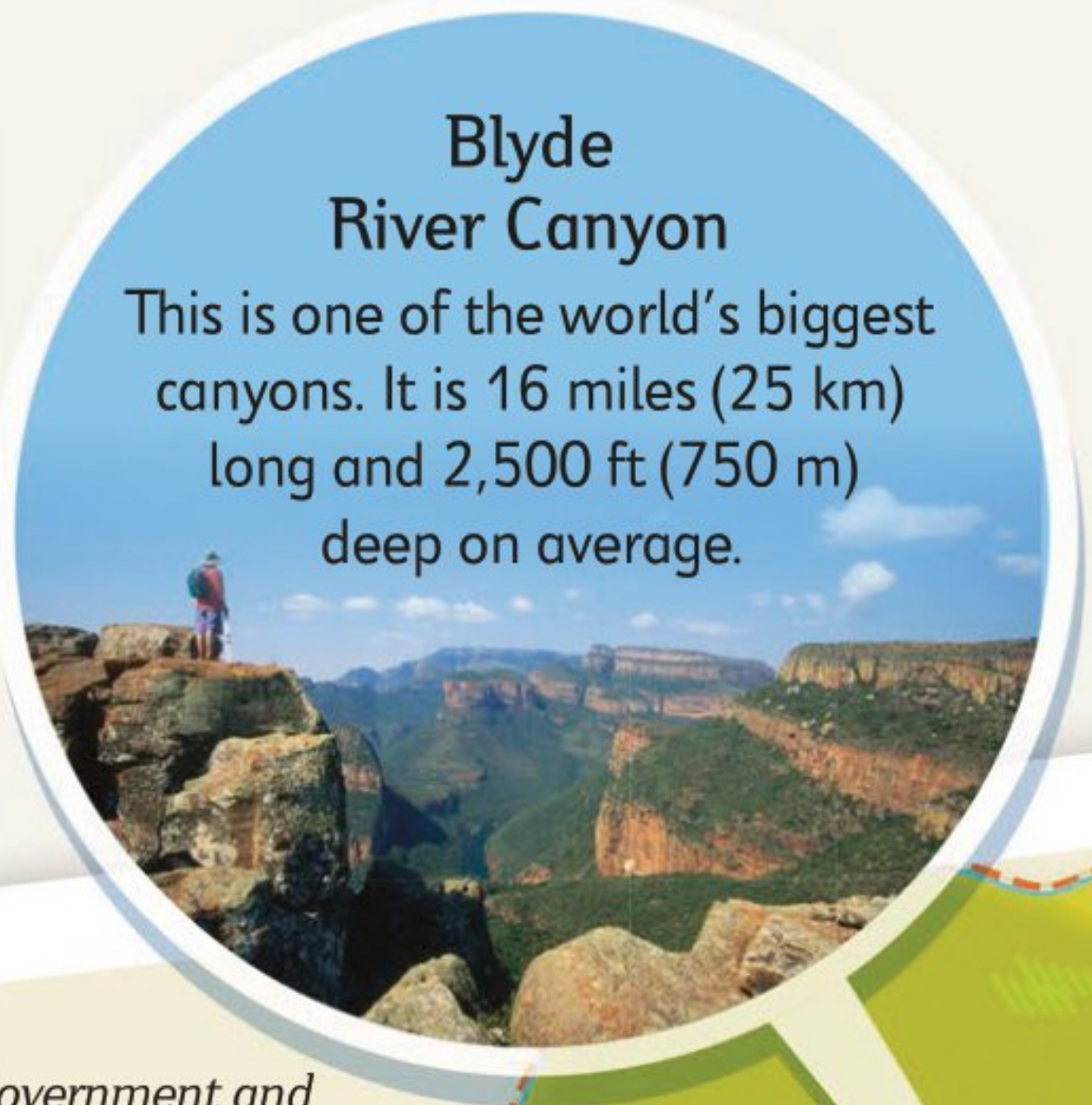
ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE

Zambia and Zimbabwe are famous for their spectacular scenery and wildlife. Africa’s fourth longest river, the Zambezi, flows down through Zambia, then curves along the border with Zimbabwe on its journey to the Indian Ocean.



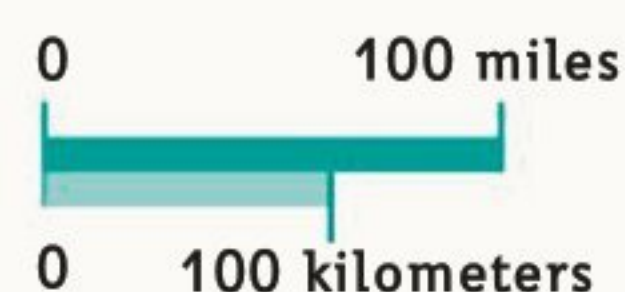
SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa is home to people from many different cultures, which is why it has 11 official languages. The landscape is equally varied, ranging from forests to deserts, and the 1,750-miles (2,800-km) coastline has many lovely beaches.



Blyde River Canyon
This is one of the world's biggest canyons. It is 16 miles (25 km) long and 2,500 ft (750 m) deep on average.

SCALE



KEY

PRODUCE



INDUSTRY



SCALE



Lemurs

Lemurs are only found in the wild in Madagascar. Some species are tiny, weighing just 1 oz (30 g), while others weigh up to 20 lb (9 kg).



Ring-tailed lemur

Two-thirds of the world's species of chameleon live in Madagascar.



Chameleon

This tiny flower is used to make drugs for treating cancer.



Rosy periwinkle

This is the world's rarest tortoise. Only 200 adults are left in the wild.



Plowshare tortoise

Mahajanga

Antananarivo

Andasibe rain forest

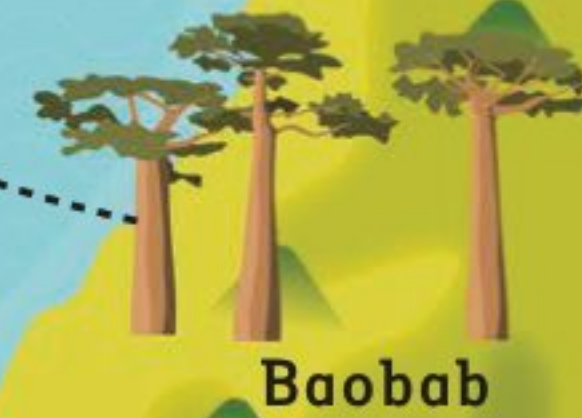
Toamasina

Antsirabe

Fianarantsoa

Toliara

This is Madagascar's national tree. Six different species of baobab are found on the island.



Baobab

Mangoky

Tomato frog

This bright red frog puffs itself up if threatened to scare off attackers. This makes it look like a tomato.



Queen's Summer Palace

Ambohimanga

This protected royal compound sits high on a hill northeast of the capital Antananarivo. It contains a number of palaces and tombs of the island's former royal family, as well as sites of religious importance to the island's native people.

MADAGASCAR

Madagascar is the world's fourth largest island. Because it is cut off from the rest of Africa, it has many plants and animals that are found nowhere else on Earth. These include lemurs and other forest animals, many colorful frogs and birds, and around 900 types of orchid, several of which are very rare.

Madagascan vanilla

Vanilla is used to flavor ice cream, cookies, and chocolate, and is used in perfume. It is made from the beans of a type of orchid. Some of the best vanilla orchids are grown in Madagascar.



NATURAL WONDERS

The world is full of wonderful natural features that are part of the landscape around us. Across the world, there are lush green rain forests, colorful coral reefs, jagged mountains, smouldering volcanoes, and rushing waterfalls. While under the surface of the Earth there are dark caves, from tiny grottos to huge caverns.

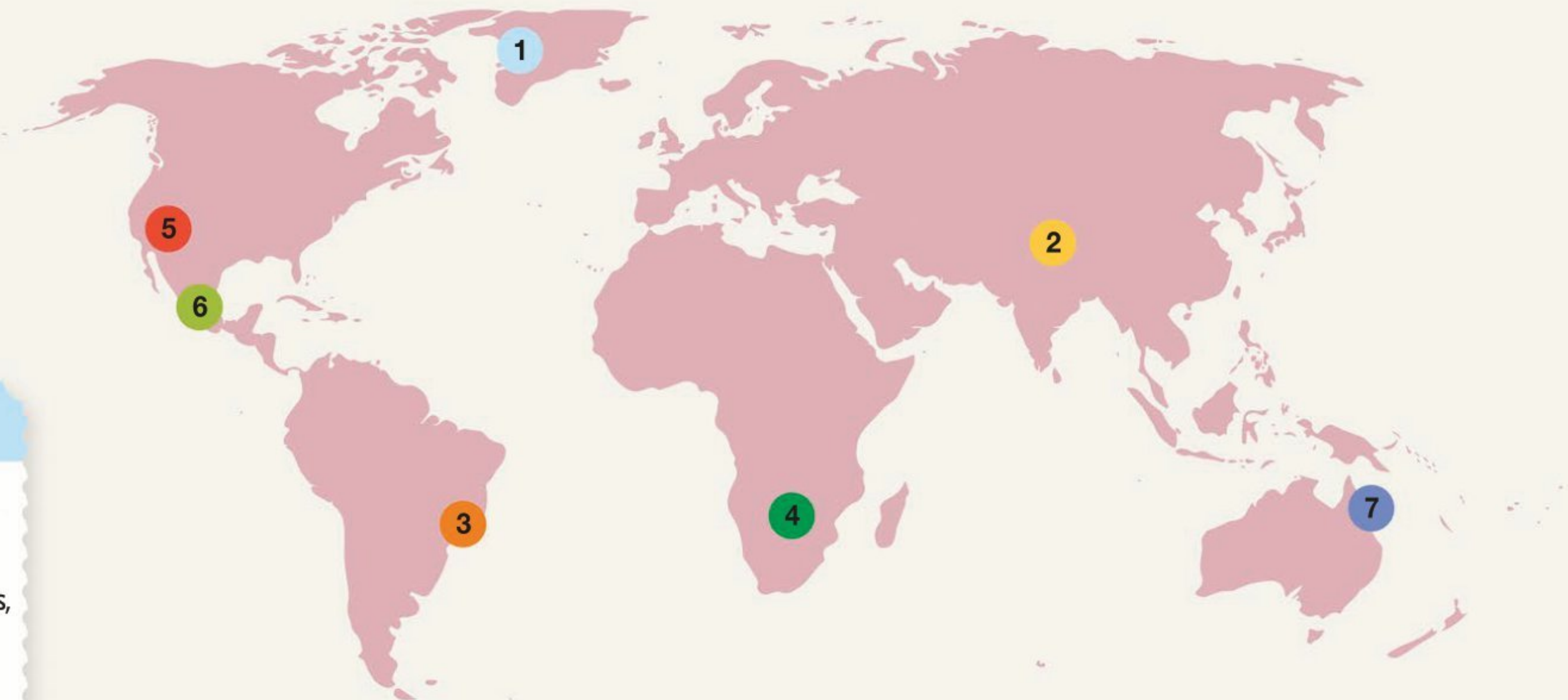
LARGEST RAIN FOREST



The largest rain forest in the world is the Amazon in South America. It covers almost half of the continent.

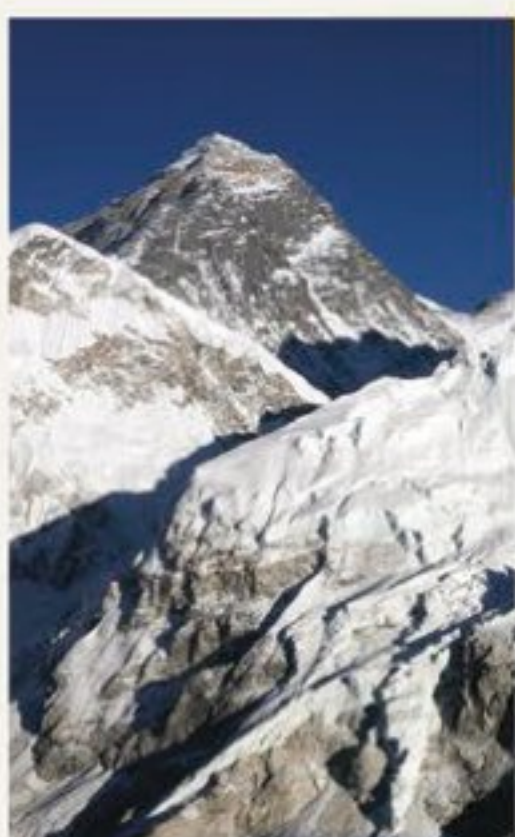
Seven Natural Wonders

The Seven Natural Wonders of the World are a group of spectacular natural features. They are favorite sites for adventurous people to visit and explore.



1. NORTHERN LIGHTS

Near the Arctic Circle, amazing light effects known as the Northern Lights, or Aurora Borealis, can be seen in the night sky.



2. MOUNT EVEREST

The world's highest mountain is on the border of Nepal and China. The peak of Mount Everest is a dark pyramid shape.



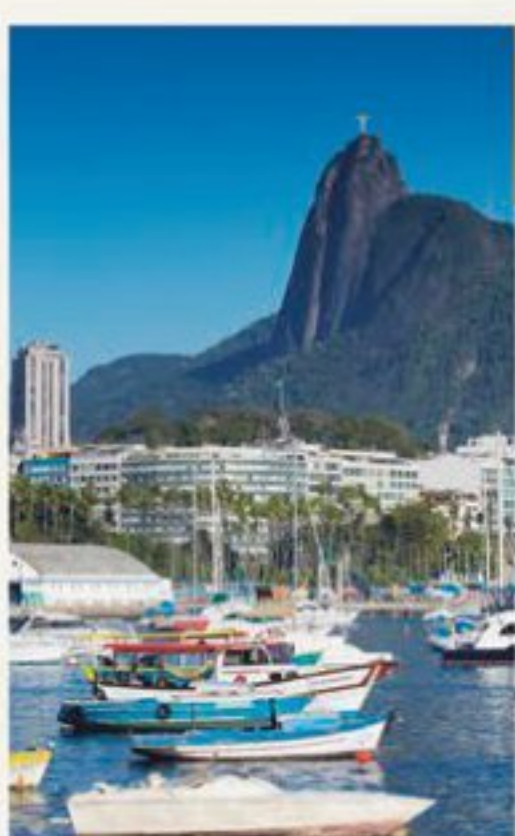
4. VICTORIA FALLS

Between Zambia and Zimbabwe are the Victoria Falls. The waters of the Zambezi River thunder over these falls.



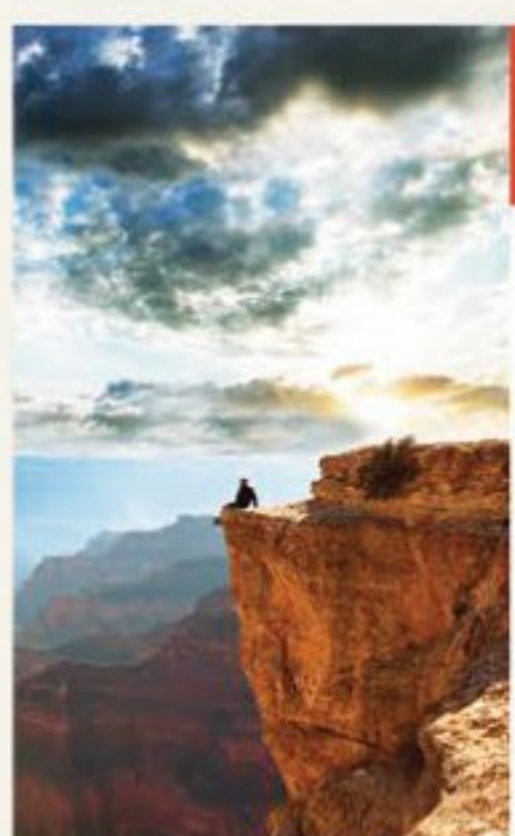
6. PARÍCUTIN VOLCANO

This volcano rose up and erupted in a farmer's cornfield in Mexico in 1943. Today, people can climb the dormant (inactive) volcano.



3. RIO DE JANEIRO HARBOR

Here, the Brazilian Highlands meet the Atlantic Ocean. Sugar Loaf Mountain marks the entrance of the bay.



5. GRAND CANYON

In Arizona, the Colorado River has formed the massive and majestic Grand Canyon. This is the largest canyon in the world.



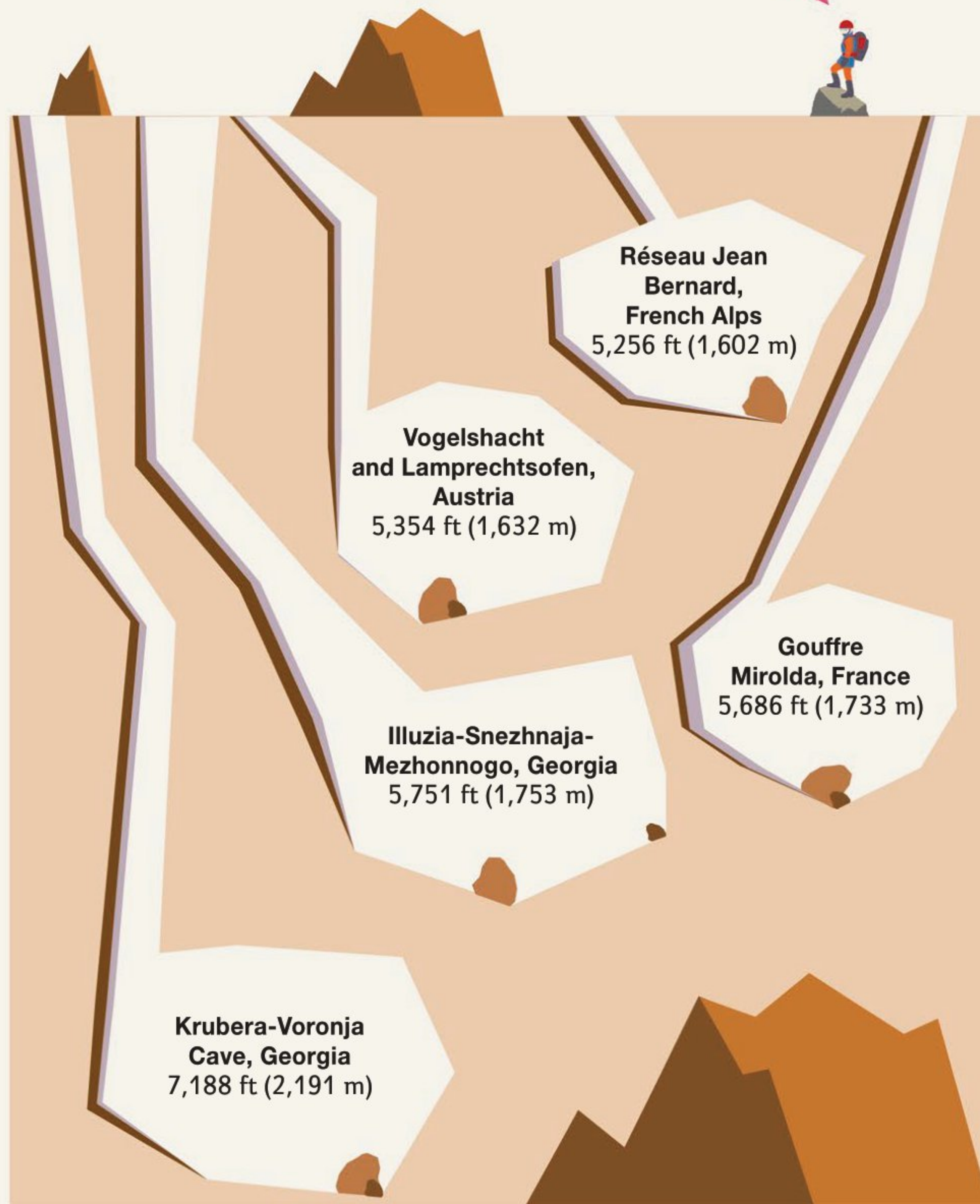
7. GREAT BARRIER REEF

The world's largest coral reef is off the western coast of Australia. Thousands of types of fish and coral live here.

Deepest caves

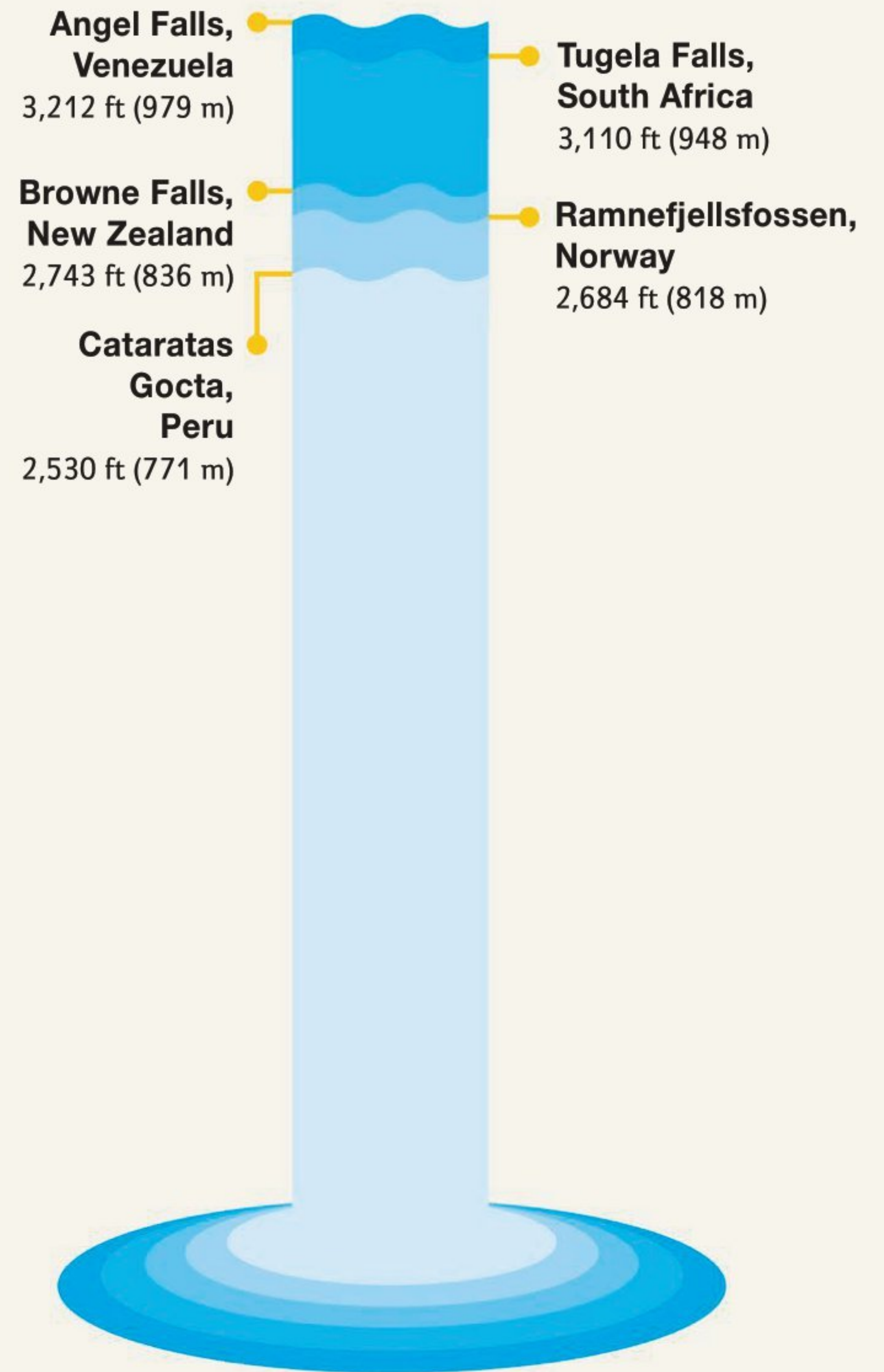
Caves are underground spaces below the surface of the Earth. They form when water wears away some types of rock in the ground. This illustration shows some of the deepest caves in the world.

The longest cave is Mammoth Cave, Kentucky. It is 405 miles (651.8 km) long.



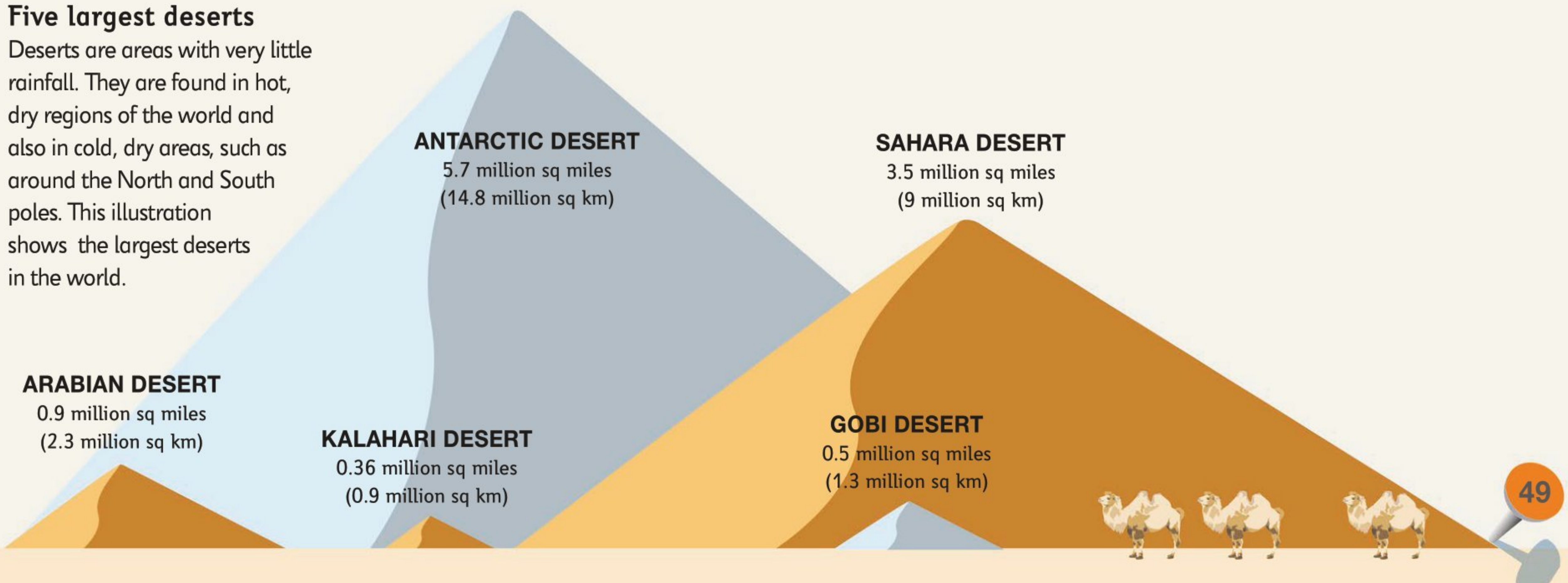
Highest waterfalls

Waterfalls are places where streams of water have a steep drop. They are formed when streams or rivers flow over different types of rock and softer rock is worn away. The five shown below are among the highest waterfalls in the world.



Five largest deserts

Deserts are areas with very little rainfall. They are found in hot, dry regions of the world and also in cold, dry areas, such as around the North and South poles. This illustration shows the largest deserts in the world.



EUROPE

With many unique cultures and languages, Europe is a varied continent. It is the home of classical music, great literature, and fine art and architecture. It has medieval castles and cathedrals, as well as beautiful historic towns and cities.

8. Where would you find flamenco dancers?

7. Which river does this bridge go across?

5. Which country is the car maker Skoda based in?

6. Which country produces more than 400 kinds of cheese?

You can find all the answers and more quizzes on pages 120-121.



EUROPE

The landscape of Europe is very varied. It includes dense forests, high mountain ranges, broad plains, remote islands, and sun-soaked beaches. The continent is home to many fine historic buildings. Countries range in size from tiny Liechtenstein to Russia, the biggest country in the world.

Northern European forest

The pine forests of Nordic countries such as Norway, Sweden, and Finland are an important source of lumber.



Paris

Paris, the capital of France, is an elegant city that mixes old and new styles of architecture effortlessly. At its center is the Eiffel Tower, one of the most famous structures on Earth.



Mediterranean Sea

The countries that surround the warm waters of the Mediterranean Sea enjoy hot, dry summers and mild winters. Thousands of visitors are drawn to their sunny beaches every year.





SCALE

0 250 miles 500 miles
0 500 kilometers



The Alps

This mountain range stretches 750 miles (1,200 km) across the heart of Europe, through France, Monaco, Italy, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, and Slovenia. The highest peak is Mont Blanc, at 15,781 ft (4,810 m).



St. Basil's Cathedral

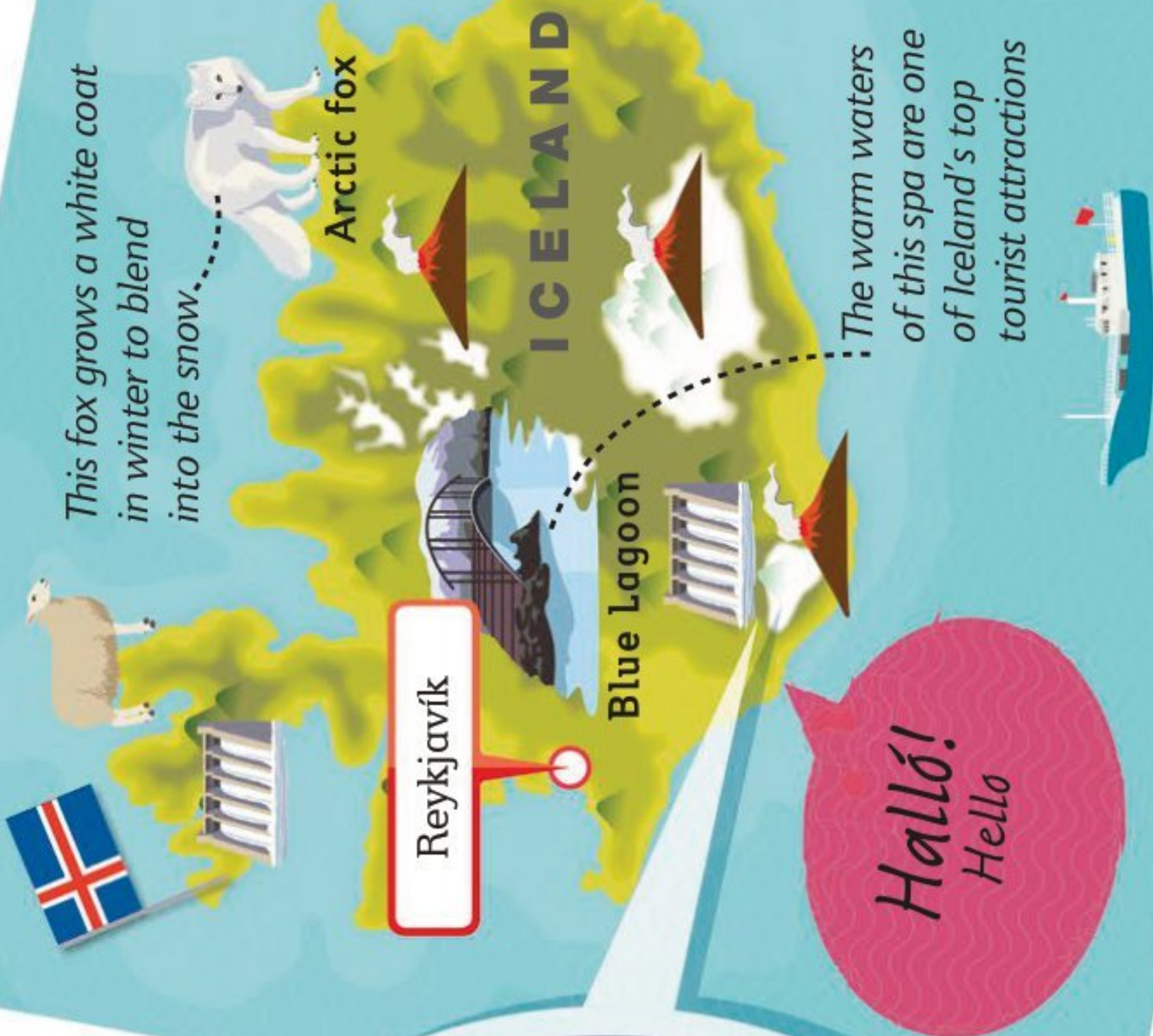
This spectacular building dominates Red Square in Moscow. It was built in the 16th century and is famous for its unique, brightly colored, onion-shaped domes. It has been a museum since 1928.

NORTHERN EUROPE

The northern European countries have fairly small populations, with most people living in towns and cities. There are also large areas of unspoiled countryside. Summers are generally warm, but winters are very cold, with limited daylight in the far north.

Eyjafjallajökull

This huge volcano in Iceland is covered by an ice cap. It erupted in 2010, producing a vast ash cloud that disrupted air travel across Europe.



KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY	
Sheep	Lumber	
Cattle	Shipbuilding	
Potatoes	Hydroelectric power	
Rye	Natural gas	
Wheat	Oil	
Sugar beets	Fishing	
Barley	Wind power	
Pigs	Iron ore	
ACTIVITIES	Electronics	
Ice hockey	NATURAL FEATURES	
Soccer	Volcanoes	
Cross-country skiing		



Pulpit Rock overlooking Lysefjord

Norway's fjords

Norway's coast is lined with hundreds of narrow inlets, called fjords, with steep cliffs on each side. The cliffs of Pulpit Rock rise a spectacular 1,982 ft (604 m) above the waters of Lysefjord.



Rollmop

These snacks are made from pickled herring fish filets rolled into a cylinder shape around a tasty filling, such as olives and pickled gherkins.



Sami in traditional dress

Lapland

This large, snowy region in the far north of Norway, Sweden, and Finland is home to the Sami people. Some keep reindeer and ride around in sleighs.

SCALE

0 100 miles
0 100 kilometers

BRITISH ISLES

The British Isles is a group of islands off the northwest coast of Europe. They consist of the United Kingdom, or UK (England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland), and Ireland. These islands are rich in history and tradition. The weather is influenced by the sea and it often rains. Ireland is known as the "Emerald Isle," because the rain makes it so green.



Traditional Scottish dress

Scottish traditions

For special occasions, some Scots wear woollen kilts, woven from different colored threads to form a pattern called tartan. Different clans (groups) have their own design of tartan. Some Scots also play the bagpipes, a type of wind instrument.

Shetland Islands
Orkney Islands



Fish and chips

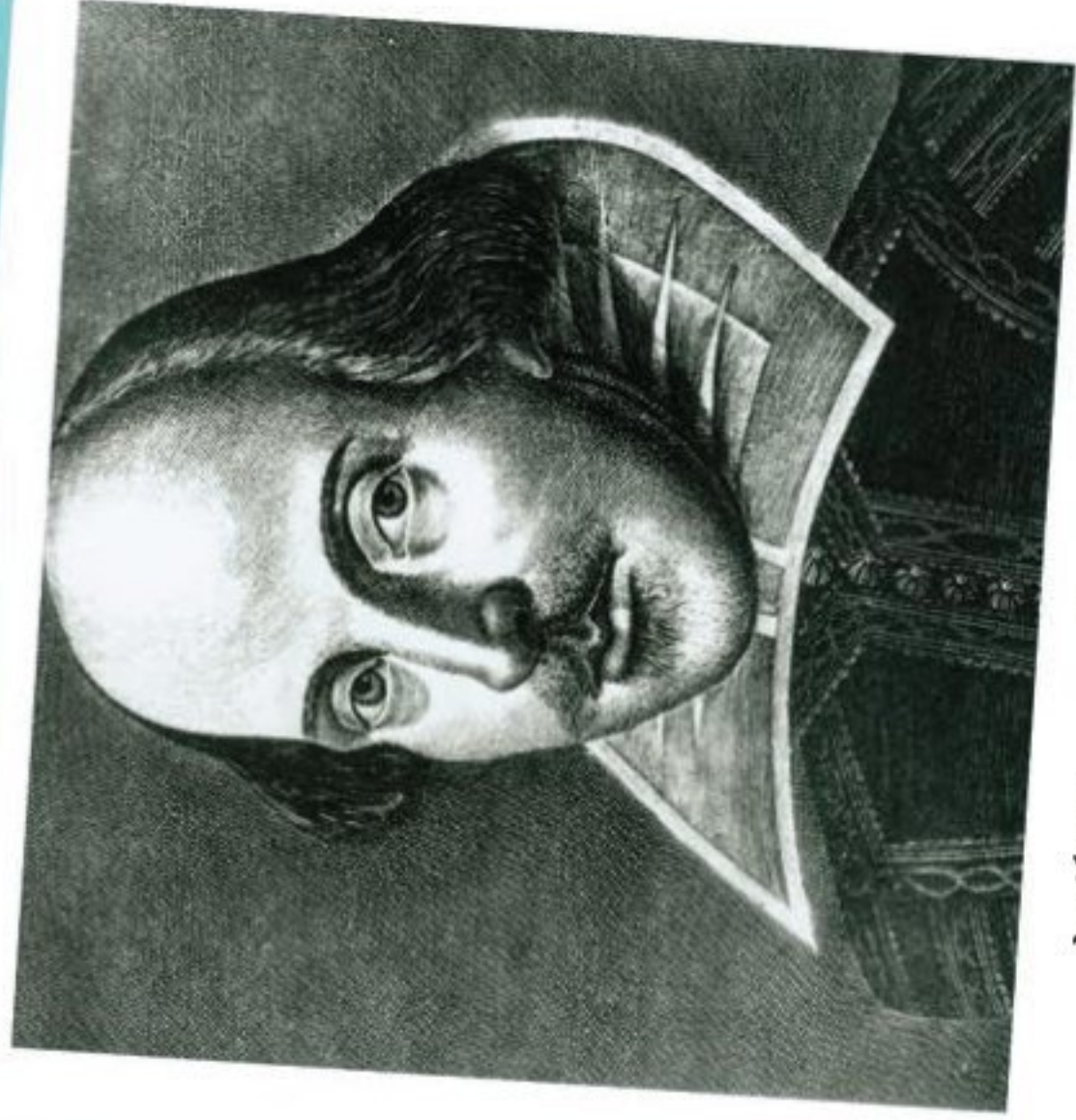


Tea

Food

and drink

Fried fish and chips are a popular meal, especially by the coast. Tea is widely drunk, usually with milk and sometimes sugar.



William Shakespeare

English playwright

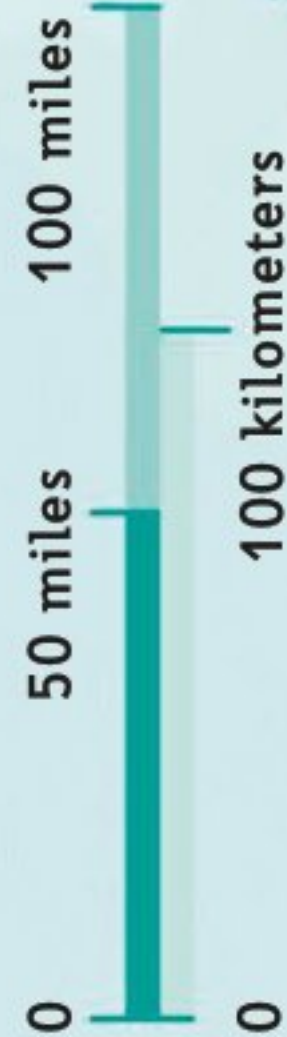
William Shakespeare was one of the world's greatest writers. Born in Stratford-upon-Avon, England, in 1564, he wrote many poems and plays that are still performed today.



KEY

PRODUCE	RESOURCES	ACTIVITIES	INDUSTRY
Wheat	Oil	Soccer	Cars
Fruit	Gas	Rock climbing	Fishing
Potatoes	Steel	Hiking	
Sheep		Surfing	
Shellfish		Cricket	
Cattle			
Vineyards			
Cheese			

SCALE



This unique rock formation is made up of hexagonal (six-sided) columns formed after an ancient volcanic eruption.



Giant's Causeway

Belfast

Northern Ireland

Orkney Islands
Shetland Islands



Inverness

Aberdeen

Most of the UK's red squirrels live in the pine forests of Scotland

Red squirrel

This popular sport was developed in Scotland

Golf

Glasgow

Edinburgh

Edinburgh Castle

This ancient fortress is built on a prominent rock above the city of Edinburgh



The wings of this huge steel statue are 177 ft (54 m) across

Angel of the North

Newcastle-upon-Tyne



Hello!

UNITED KINGDOM

NORTH SEA

IRISH SEA

England

Wales

SNOWDONIA

CELTIC SEA

ENGLISH CHANNEL

FRANCE

Channel Tunnel

Houses of Parliament

The home of the United Kingdom government is the Houses of Parliament in London. It has a clock tower containing a large bell, nicknamed "Big Ben."

The Eden Project

These unique, bubblelike greenhouses are in Cornwall, southwest England. Tropical and Mediterranean climates are recreated inside them and they contain thousands of plant species from all over the world.

Cliffs of Moher

Ireland is known for its rugged and rocky coastline. These dramatic cliffs rise up to 650 ft (200 m) out of the Atlantic Ocean and are very popular with visitors.

FRANCE

France is known worldwide for its food, wine, and beautiful countryside. Today, most French people live in towns and cities. France is highly industrialized and has one of the fastest train networks, the TGV. The arts, such as painting, and sports, particularly cycling, are very popular.



Water Lilies, by Monet

Art

Millions of people visit France's museums every year to see paintings and sculptures by artists such as Claude Monet and Auguste Rodin.



Sunflower

Camembert cheese



Grapes

Loire châteaux

The Loire Valley is famous for its 42 châteaux, or large country houses. Château de Chenonceau sits across the Cher River on a row of arches.



Cheese and wine

More than 400 different cheeses are made in France. Almost every area has its own type, ranging from soft cheeses, such as Camembert, to hard and even blue cheeses. France also produces some of the world's best wines, made from the juice of black or white grapes. Sunflowers are also grown in the south. Their seeds are pressed to make oil.

SCALE



NETHERLANDS AND BELGIUM

The Netherlands and Belgium are also known as the Low Countries, because most of the land is very flat, with a lot of it at or below sea level. This flat land means cycling is popular. Both countries are among the wealthiest in Europe and are heavily populated.

Amsterdam

There are many canals in Amsterdam and lots of people live in waterfront apartments. Amsterdam also has several important art galleries.



This building in The Hague is the home of the Dutch government

Amsterdam

Anne Frank

This brave girl went into hiding during World War II and kept a diary of her experiences

The Hague

Binnenhof

Utrecht

Arnhem

Rotterdam

Hockey is a major sport in the Netherlands

Field hockey

This medieval bell tower is in the historic city of Bruges

Antwerp is a center of the diamond trade

Vincent van Gogh

This great artist was born in Zundert in the southern Netherlands in 1853

Eindhoven

Ostend

Belfry of Bruges

Diamond trade

Antwerp

Bruges

Red poppy flowers grow in the fields of Belgium

Field poppy

Ghent

Brussels

Belgian lace is known for its beauty and delicacy

Belgian lace

Atomium

This unique building is the symbol of Brussels

Belgian beer

Thousands of different types of beer are brewed across Belgium

Charleroi

Liège

BELGIUM

FRANCE

ARDENNES

LUXEMBOURG

Belgian food

Mussels and fries (called *moules and frites* in Belgium) is a favorite Belgian dish. Another specialty is rich and creamy Belgian chocolates.



Belgian chocolates

The Netherlands is famous for its tulip farms, most of which are in the northeast of the country

Tulips

Windmills pump water out of wet areas and help protect land from flooding

Windmill

Groningen

NETHERLANDS

NORTH SEA

Wadden Islands



SCALE



Safe cycling

Cycling

Cycle lanes are found throughout the Netherlands and Belgium, making it safe and quick for cyclists on the move.

KEY

PRODUCE

- Potatoes
- Cheese
- Cattle
- Pigs
- Greenhouses
- Wheat
- Fruit

INDUSTRY

- Steel
- Gas

ACTIVITIES

- Soccer
- Hiking
- Cycling

TINTIN ET LES PICAROS



Tintin

The Adventures of Tintin and his dog, Snowy, are told in the comic books written by the Belgian cartoonist Hergé.

Tintin traveled the world and solved many mysteries

SWITZERLAND AND AUSTRIA

Switzerland and Austria are mountainous countries in Central Europe. The Alps run through both countries, providing snow-covered slopes that are used for winter sports and beautiful alpine valleys, where hiking is popular in the summer.



Lipizzaner and rider

Spanish Riding School
The Spanish Riding School in Vienna teaches traditional horse-riding techniques and is home to the Lipizzaner, a breed of white horse.

This cathedral has a multicolored roof

Sachertorte

This rich chocolate cake is served in coffee houses, where Austrians love to meet up. Coffee houses are an important part of Austrian social life, especially in Vienna.



Le Corbusier

This Swiss-French architect designed stylish modern buildings, often featuring straight lines and bright blocks of colors.



This Swiss author wrote Heidi, a novel about a young girl who lives in the Alps

Zürich



Johanna Spyri

Basel

The finest watches and clocks are made in Switzerland

Watches

Bern



LIECHTENSTEIN

Liechtenstein is one of the smallest countries in the world and specializes in banking

Innsbruck

Chamois

These wild goats are hunted for their meat

Gentiana

This flower grows in the mountains and is used to flavor drinks

Alpine horns are used in the mountains to play music or send signals

Hornblower

Lausanne

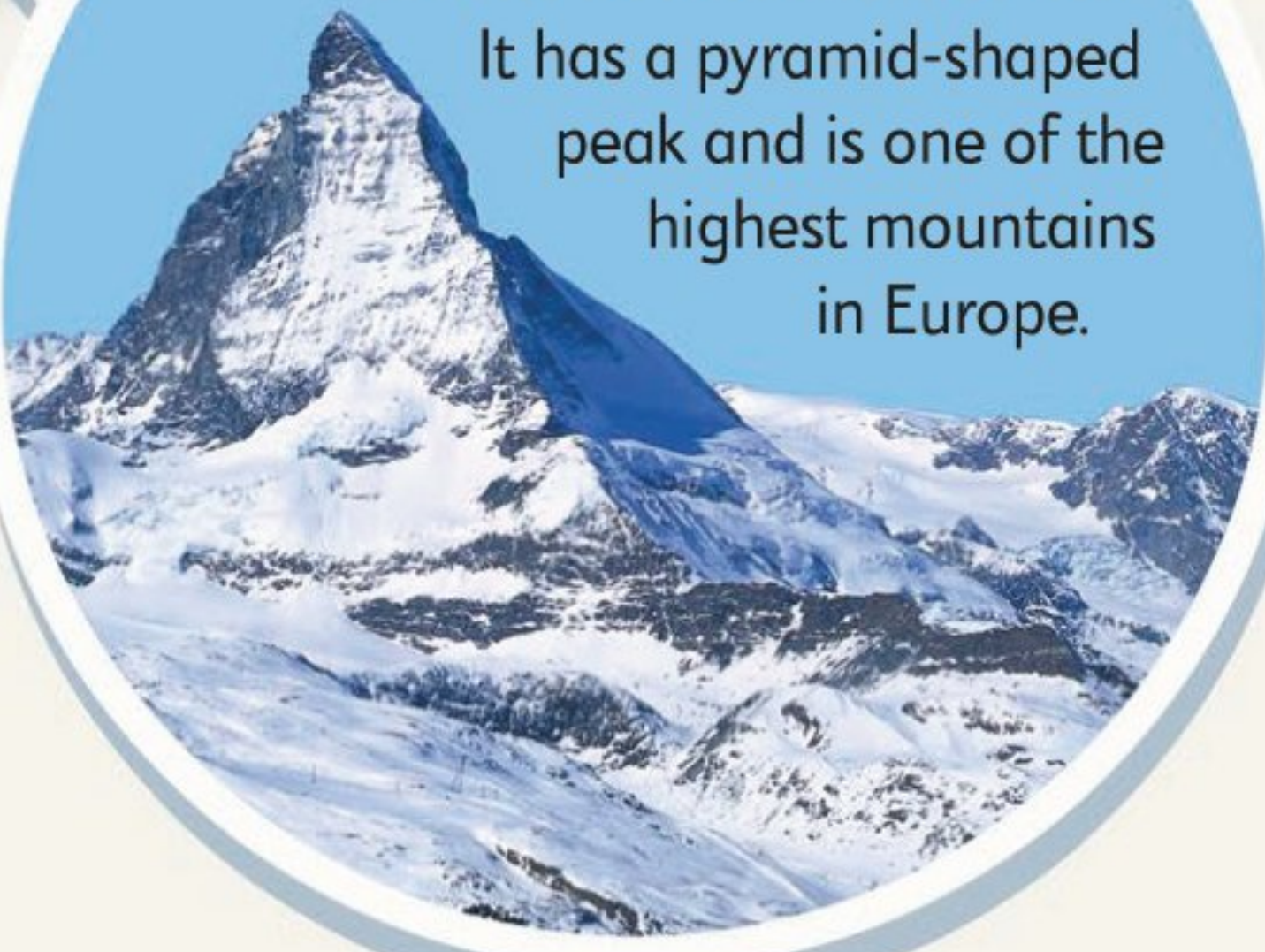
Geneva

Red Cross

Geneva is home to the Red Cross, which provides care to people in need around the world

Matterhorn

On the Swiss-Italian border is the dramatic Matterhorn. It has a pyramid-shaped peak and is one of the highest mountains in Europe.



Skiing in the Alps

The snowy Alps are great for winter sports, such as skiing and snowboarding. Competitions, such as downhill racing, are held for both children and adults.



Downhill racer

KEY

PRODUCE

Cheese

Cattle

Vineyards

Apricots

INDUSTRY

Lumber

Banking

Hydroelectric power

ACTIVITIES

Skiing

Hiking

Mountain climbing

SCALE

0 50 miles

0 50 kilometers

ITALY



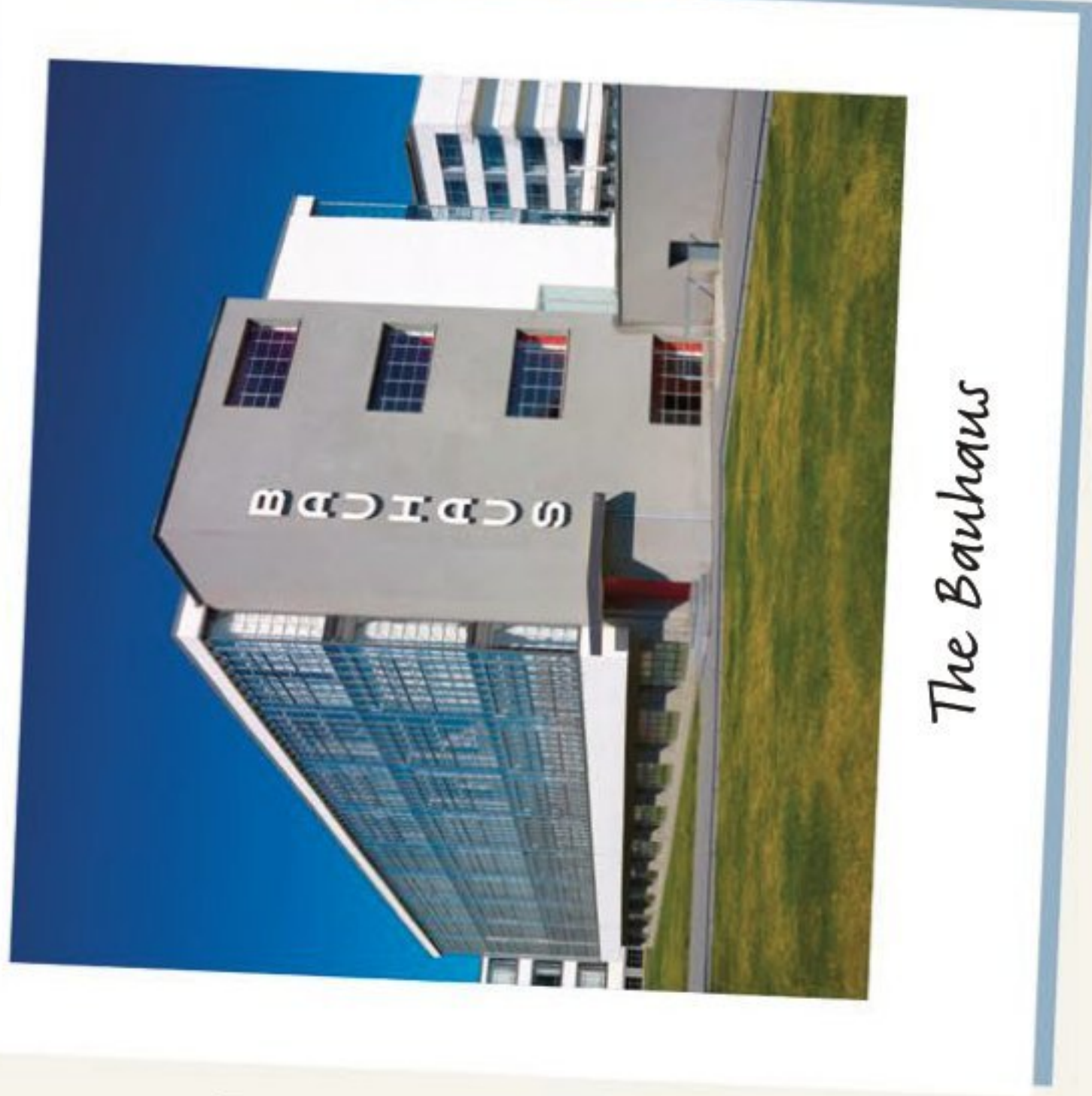
Alpine marmot

Marmots live high up in the Alps, eating grass and shrubs. They are sociable little animals, who whistle to each other. In winter, they hibernate in burrows.

GERMANY

Germany is one of the largest and most important countries in Europe. The Rhine River cuts through mountainous landscape and passes pretty villages in southern Germany, while farther north there are large industrial cities. Germany is a major exporter of many quality goods, including cars.

Modern design
The Bauhaus was an art school in Germany. It promoted a clean, bold, modern look in art, architecture, and craft and had a huge influence throughout the world.



The Bauhaus

KEY

INDUSTRY



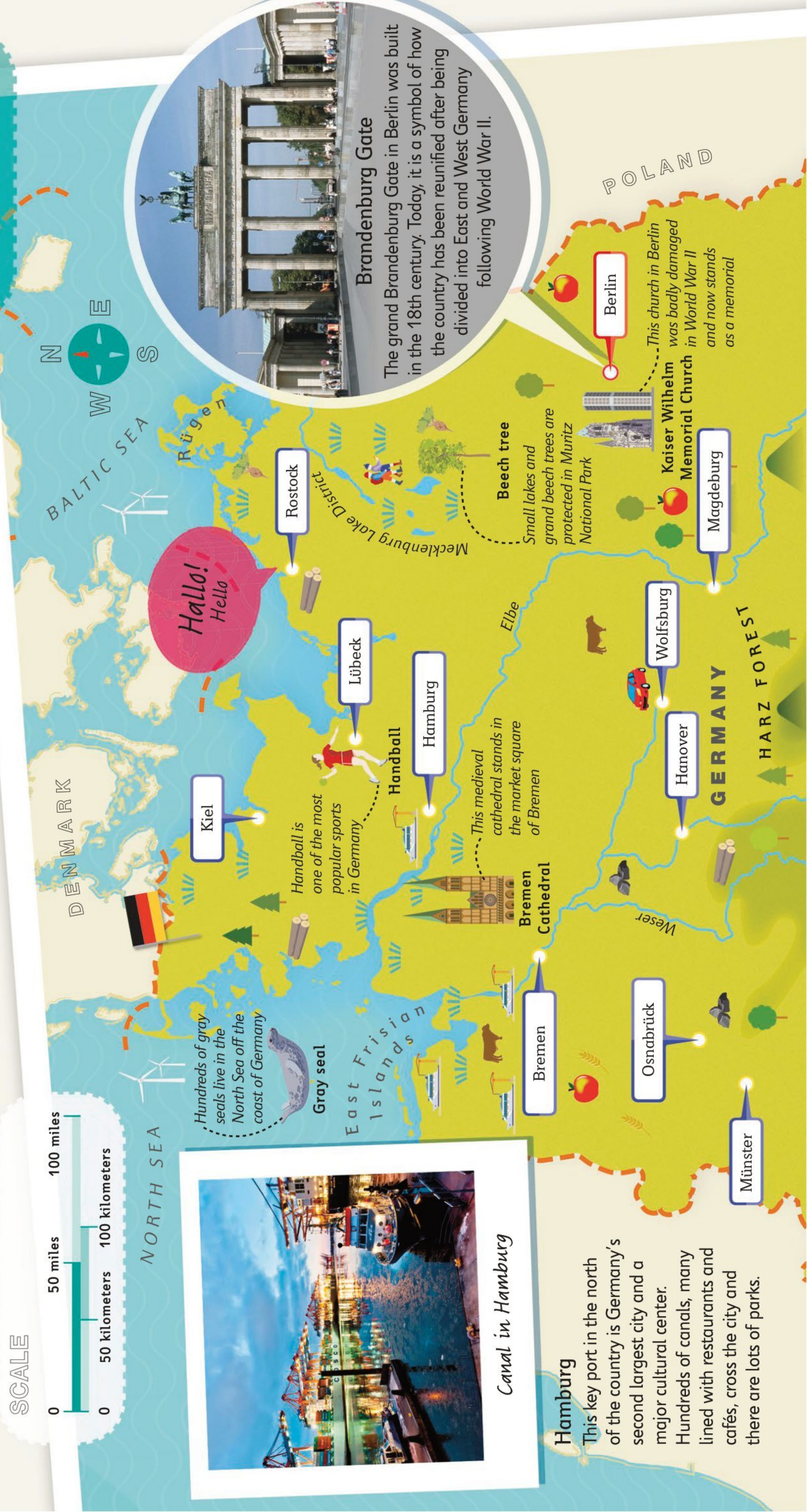
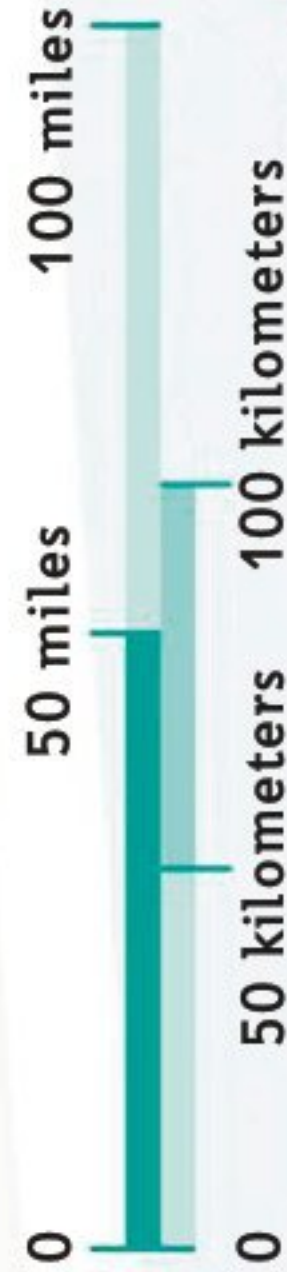
PRODUCE



ACTIVITIES



SCALE



Canal in Hamburg

Hamburg

This key port in the north of the country is Germany's second largest city and a major cultural center. Hundreds of canals, many lined with restaurants and cafés, cross the city and there are lots of parks.

Hallo!
Hello

Brandenburg Gate

The grand Brandenburg Gate in Berlin was built in the 18th century. Today, it is a symbol of how the country has been reunified after being divided into East and West Germany following World War II.

POLAND

Berlin

This church in Berlin was badly damaged in World War II and now stands as a memorial

Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church

Magdeburg

GERMANY

HARZ FOREST



This beautiful Baroque palace was built for the ruler of Saxony in 1709

Zwinger Palace
Dresden

Leipzig
Chemnitz

This writer and poet made a major contribution to German literature. He lived in Weimar

Weimar
J. W. von Goethe

Wartburg
Christian leader Martin Luther translated the New Testament of the Bible into German at Wartburg Castle

The Rhine Valley is rich in coal

Dortmund
Coal Mine
This electric railway at Wuppertal uses trains hanging from a raised track

Cologne
Cologne Cathedral
This Gothic cathedral is one of the largest in Europe

Bonn
Beethoven
Classical composer Ludwig van Beethoven was born in Bonn

The Lorelei is a large rocky outcrop on the Rhine River that has inspired many folktales

BELOW

Dresden Christmas market



Christmas markets
At Christmastime, markets are held all over Germany, selling seasonal foods, such as hot chestnuts and marzipan figures. Markets also sell wooden toys and candles to put on the Christmas tree.

Nuremberg

Motorsport is big in Germany and a Formula One Grand Prix is held most years

Heidelberg
Formula One

Heidelberg Castle

Stuttgart

Augsburg

Munich

Oktoberfest

Every October a big beer festival is held in Munich

Neuschwanstein Castle

This castle with a fairy-tale design inspired the castle in the film Sleeping Beauty

Golden eagle

Lake Constance

Golden eagles hunt prey in the Bavarian Alps

Wild boar

These wild pigs live in the forests of Germany

SWITZERLAND

AUSTRIA

BAVARIAN ALPS

German baking

Baking bread, cakes, and pastries is a German speciality. Crusty whole-wheat, dark rye, and multigrain breads are popular. Pretzels are sweet or salty bread made in the shape of a knot. Black Forest gateaux is a cream and chocolate cake topped with cherries.



Whole-wheat bread

Cuckoo clock

The cuckoo clock became popular in the Black Forest and surrounding area in the 19th century. When the hour is struck the clock makes a sound like a cuckoo and a model cuckoo pops out.



Rhine castles

Many local rulers built magnificent castles along the Rhine Valley in medieval times, both as symbols of their power and to protect their lands from attack.



FRANCE

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

Spain and Portugal are part of sunny southern Europe. Both countries have long coastlines and spectacular scenery, making them popular with vacationers. The sea is a major source of food, and fishing is an important industry in both countries.



Decorative tiles

Portuguese tiles

Decorative tiles are found on homes and churches and are sometimes used as street signs. They often show scenes including cities, flowers, and fishing boats.

These traditional boats from Aveiro have a half-moon shape and are painted in bright colors.

Fado is traditional Portuguese music that is often accompanied by guitar.

This 16th-century fort sits at the entrance to Lisbon's harbor.

Many people visit the Azores to see dolphins.

Dolphin watching

Azores

Ponta Delgada

Madeira

Madeira

Madeira is a strong type of wine made on the island of Madeira.

Funchal

Canary Islands

These Spanish islands are found off North Africa's west coast.

Santa Cruz de Tenerife

Las Palmas de Gran Canaria





Guggenheim Museum

Bilbao

San Sebastian

FRANCE

ANDORRA

Figueres

Barcelona

Sagrada Família Cathedral

Zaragoza

Hola!
Hello

Madrid

Royal Palace

Windmills

SPAIN

Valencia

Paella

Alicante

Cartagena

Córdoba

Guadalquivir

Alhambra

Granada

Almería

Flamenco

Málaga

Greenhouses

Flamenco

Flamenco is a type of music and dance from southern Spain. A six-stringed Spanish guitar is used in flamenco and in classical music.



Spanish guitar

Olive oil

Olives grow throughout Spain and Portugal. They are either eaten as snacks or pressed to make oil. Spain produces more olive oil than any other country.

Spanish tapas

Tapas are small plates of food, served separately as snacks or eaten together as a full meal. Dishes can be hot or cold and include olives and fish, such as anchovies.

Balearic Islands

Palma

N

W

E

S

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

KEY

PRODUCE



Cheese



Vineyards



Iberian black pigs



Sunflowers



Oranges



Olives and oil



Barley



Cattle



Wheat



Rice



Bananas

INDUSTRY



Fishing



Coal mining



Iron ore

ACTIVITIES



Skiing



Surfing

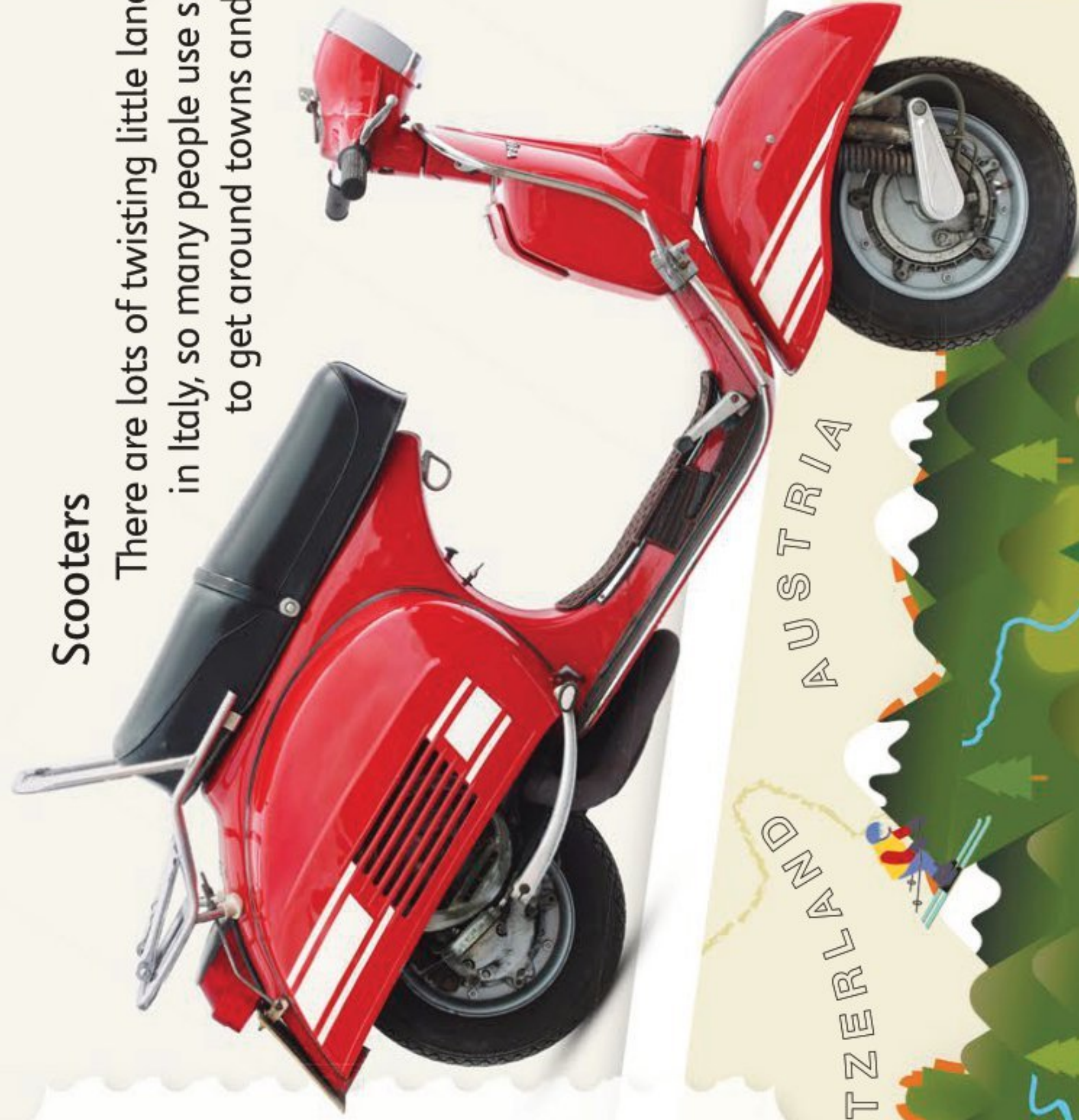
ALGERIA

ITALY

Italy stretches down from the Alps in the north to the Mediterrean island of Sicily in the south. The country is shaped like a boot, with its toe almost touching Sicily. In ancient times, the Romans built a great empire that was ruled from Rome. Italy is also famous for its art and architecture.

Scooters

There are lots of twisting little lanes and streets in Italy, so many people use small scooters to get around towns and cities.

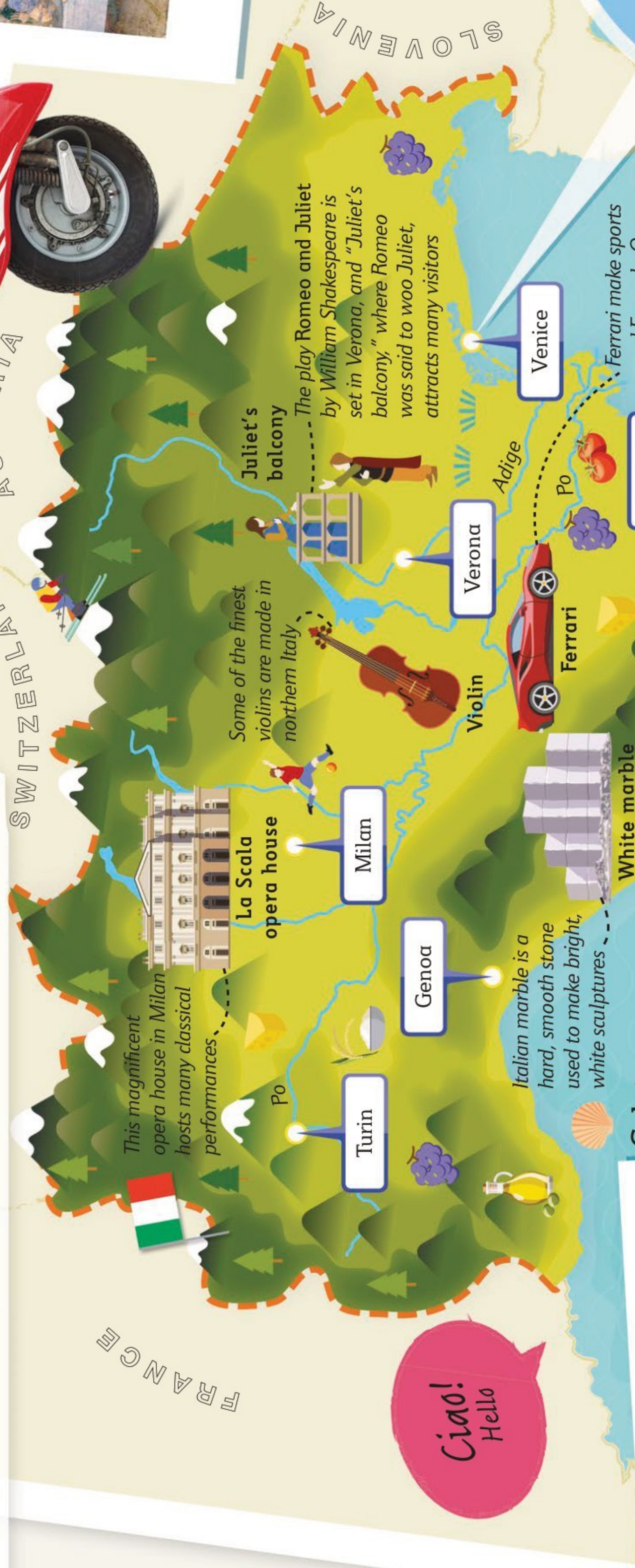


The Last Supper

Leonardo da Vinci

Leonardo da Vinci was one of the world's greatest artists and inventors. In the late 15th century he painted *The Last Supper*, an oil painting showing Jesus Christ's last meal with his apostles (followers).

SWITZERLAND AUSTRIA



Gelato

Italian ice cream is called gelato and is soft and creamy. It comes in lots of delicious flavors, such as vanilla, strawberry, chocolate, and pistachio.

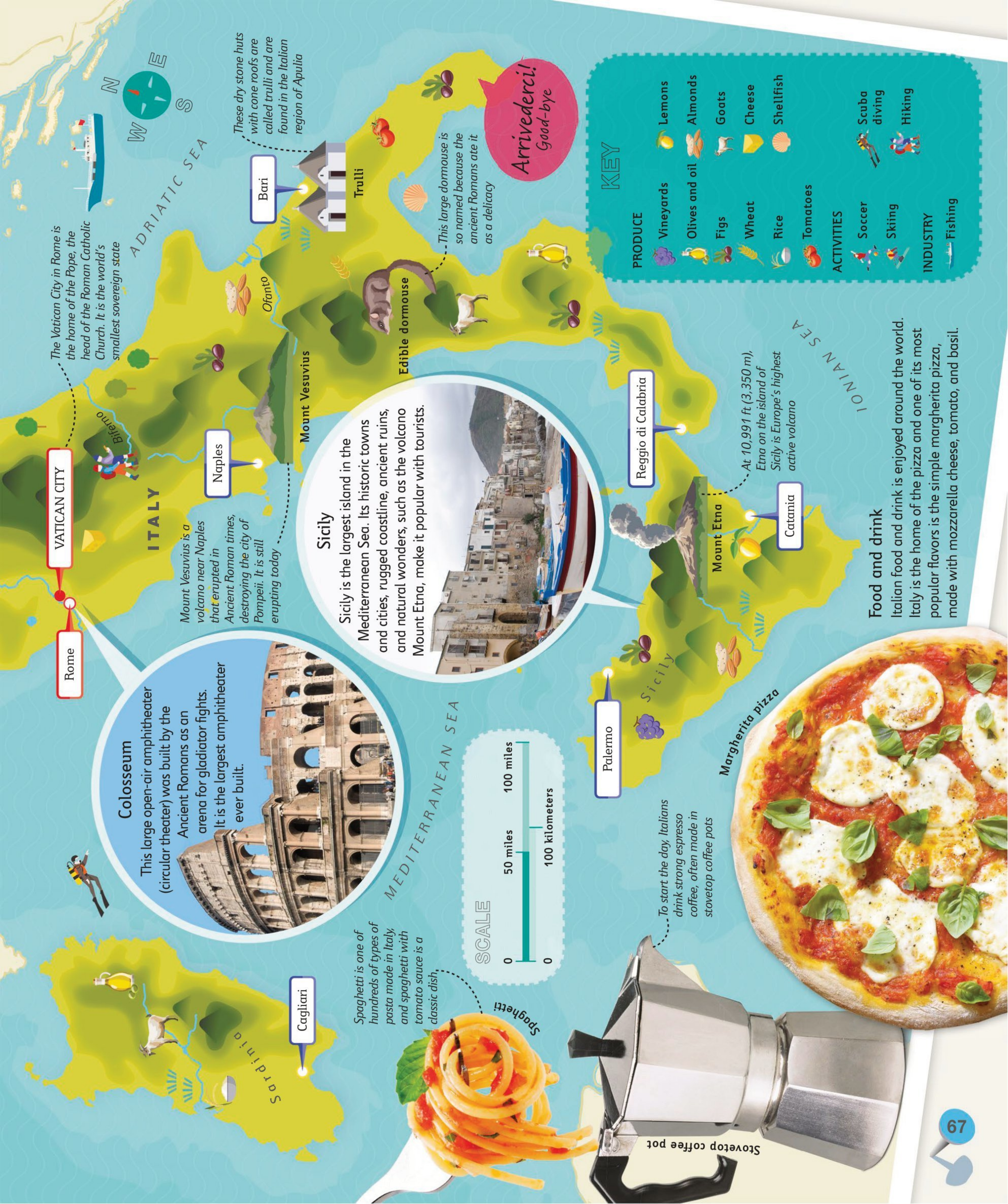


Gelato

Venice

Venice is a city of canals instead of streets. It is built on 118 small islands linked together by bridges. People travel around the city on boats called gondolas.





VATICAN CITY

Rome

Colosseum

This large open-air amphitheater (circular theater) was built by the Ancient Romans as an arena for gladiator fights. It is the largest amphitheater ever built.



Mount Vesuvius is a volcano near Naples that erupted in Ancient Roman times, destroying the city of Pompeii. It is still erupting today

Naples

Cagliari

Spaghetti is one of hundreds of types of pasta made in Italy, and spaghetti with tomato sauce is a classic dish.



Sicily

Sicily is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea. Its historic towns and cities, rugged coastline, ancient ruins, and natural wonders, such as the volcano Mount Etna, make it popular with tourists.



Palermo

Sicily

Reggio di Calabria

Mount Etna

Catania

At 10,991 ft (3,350 m), Etna on the island of Sicily is Europe's highest active volcano

Margherita pizza

To start the day, Italians drink strong espresso coffee, often made in stovetop coffee pots



Stovetop coffee pot

Arrivederci!
Good-bye

This large dormouse is so named because the ancient Romans ate it as a delicacy

Edible dormouse

These dry stone huts with cone roofs are called trulli and are found in the Italian region of Apulia

Bari

Trulli

KEY

PRODUCE

- | | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Vineyards | Lemons |
| Olives and oil | Almonds |
| Figs | Goats |
| Wheat | Cheese |
| Rice | Shellfish |
| Tomatoes | |

ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|--------|--------------|
| Soccer | Scuba diving |
| Skiing | Hiking |

INDUSTRY

- | |
|---------|
| Fishing |
|---------|

Food and drink

Italian food and drink is enjoyed around the world. Italy is the home of the pizza and one of its most popular flavors is the simple margherita pizza, made with mozzarella cheese, tomato, and basil.



CENTRAL EUROPE

Central Europe is a region of historic cities and ancient castles. Farming is important in Poland, as are industries such as coal mining and steel. To the south, people enjoy hiking and skiing in the rugged mountains of the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

GERMANY



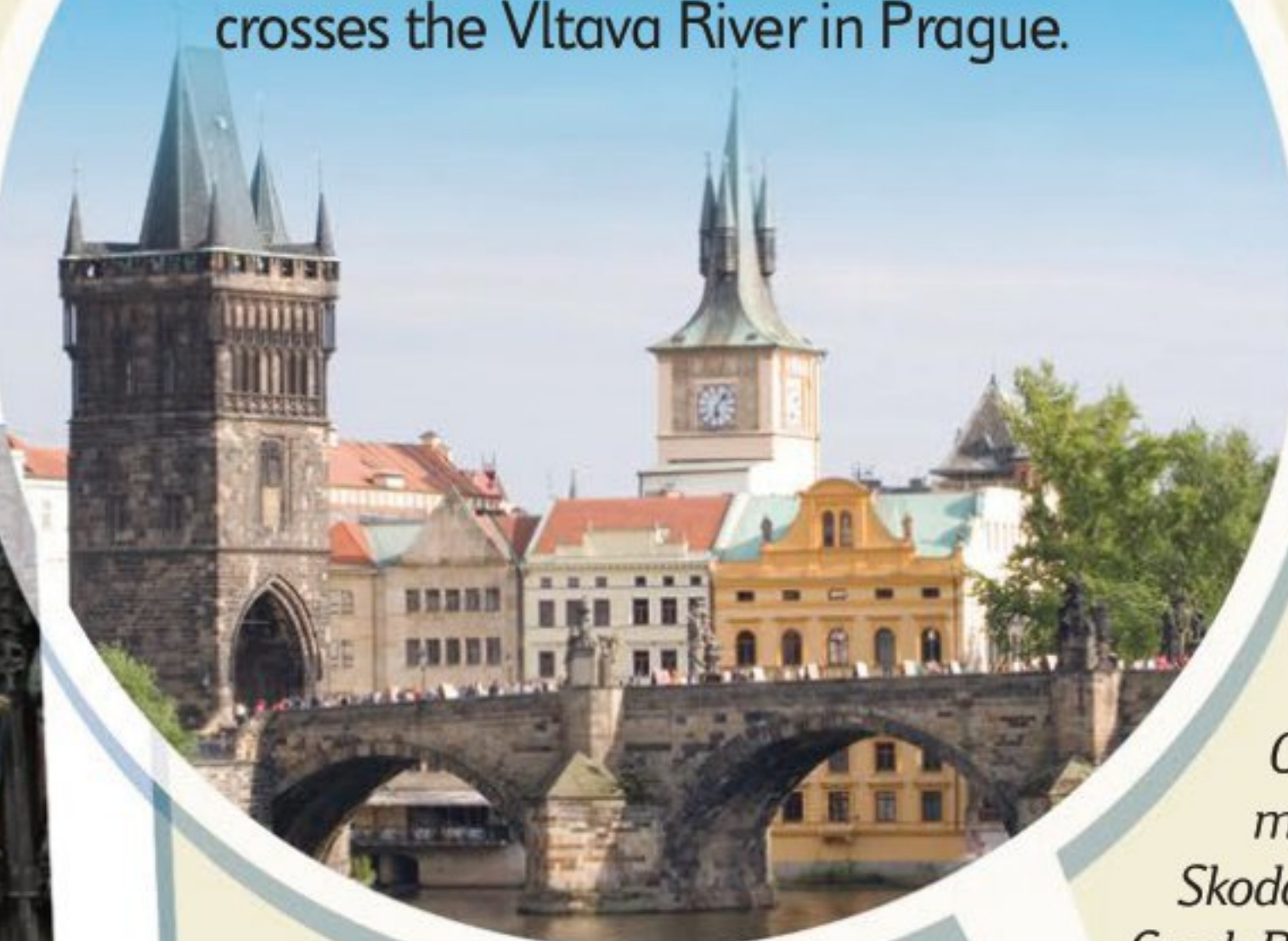
Astronomical clock

Astronomical Clock

This 600-year-old clock is in the Old Town Square of Prague. Every hour, mechanical statues move and perform.

Charles Bridge

One of Europe's finest bridges is the statue-lined Charles Bridge, which crosses the Vltava River in Prague.



Brewing beer is a Czech specialty and hops are used in the process

Hops
Prague

Skoda



CZECH REPUBLIC

Ahoj!
Hello

Bohemian glass

Glassmaking is a traditional craft in Bohemia, the eastern half of the Czech Republic. Hand-cut, colored and gold-plated glasses are made in studios across Bohemia.



SCALE



Cars are made by Skoda in the Czech Republic

Liberec

Wroclaw

KRKOŇOŠE
NATIONAL PARK

Ostrava

Špilberk Castle

Brno

This medieval fortress stands on a hill overlooking the city of Bratislava

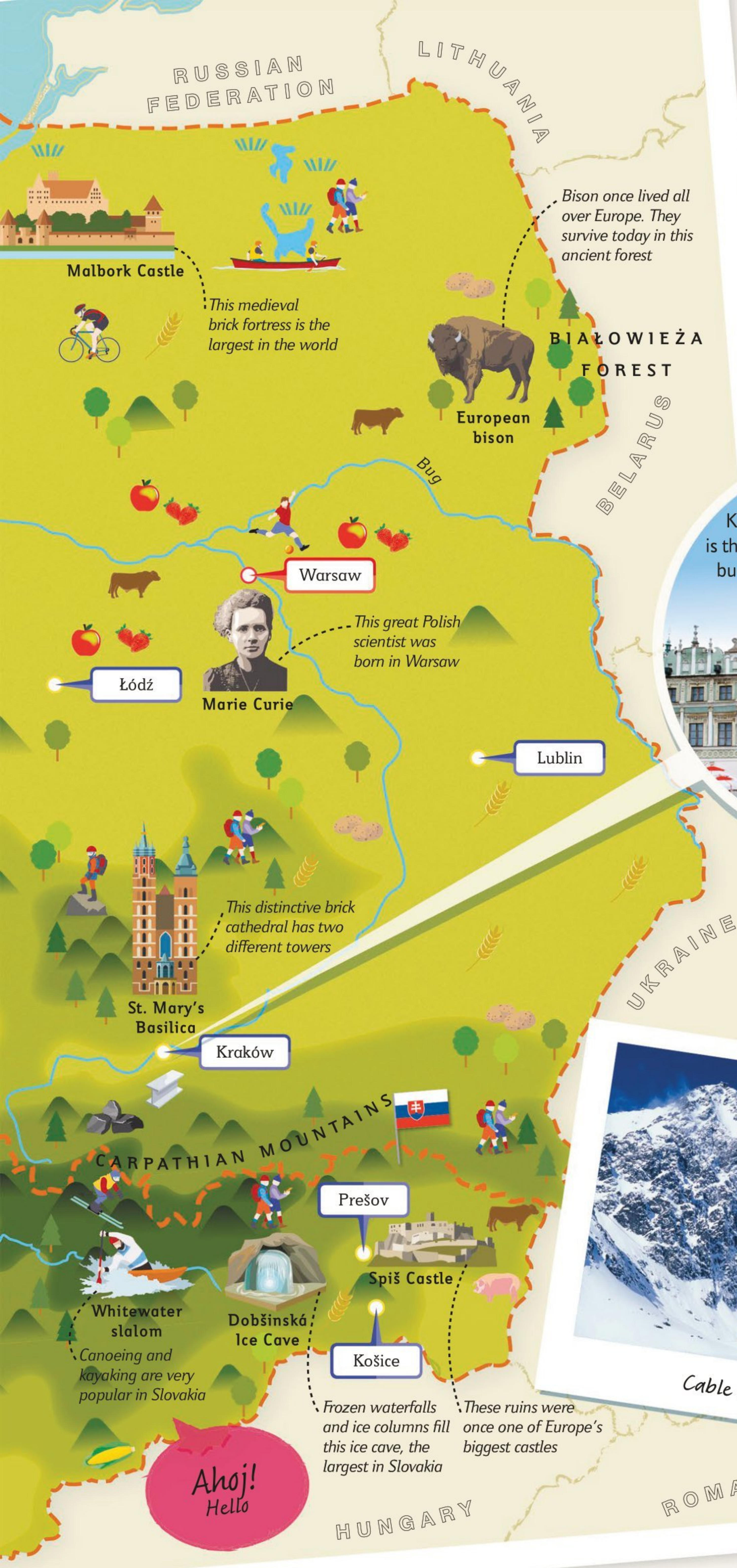
Bratislava Castle

Bratislava

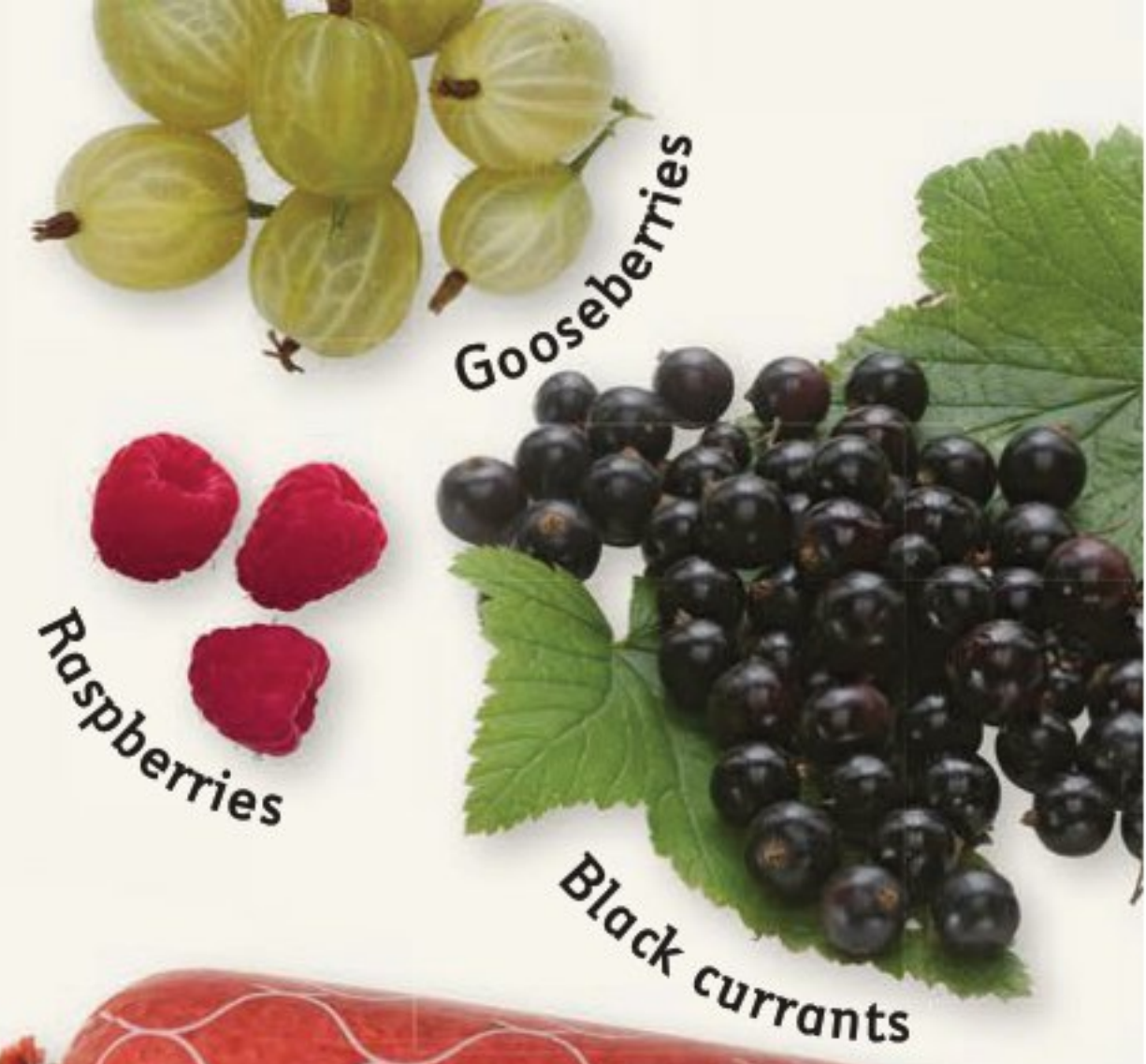
AUSTRIA

SLOVAKIA





Local produce
Many different berries grow in the fields and forests of Central Europe. Milk from Polish cows is used in creamy cheeses, Slovakian pig meat makes Pressburg saláma sausage, and Chlebičky open sandwiches are a Czech delicacy.



Market square
Kraków medieval market square is the largest in Europe. The beautiful buildings and many bars and cafés attract lots of tourists.



KEY

PRODUCE

- | | |
|--------------|----------|
| Cattle | Potatoes |
| Pigs | Wheat |
| Sugar beets | Corn |
| Strawberries | Apples |

INDUSTRY

- | | |
|-------|--------|
| Coal | Silver |
| Steel | |

ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|---------------|----------|
| Hiking | Soccer |
| Ice hockey | Skiing |
| Rock climbing | Cycling |
| | Canoeing |



Cable car

High Tatras

The High Tatra Mountains lie between Poland and Slovakia. Cable cars carry passengers to the top of Lomnický Peak, one of the highest mountains in Slovakia.

HUNGARY AND CROATIA

Hungary's historic capital, Budapest, lies on the banks of the Danube River, which flows through the country. Many crops are grown on the fertile plains. Croatia's coastline is dotted with hundreds of small islands that are fun to sail around.



Széchenyi Baths

The waters of these baths in Hungary are heated by two thermal springs. The ornate interior makes it feel as if you are swimming inside a cathedral.

Helló!
Hello



SCALE

0 50 miles
0 100 kilometers

This thermal lake is one of the largest in the world

Lake Hévíz

Lake Balaton

Budapest

Chain Bridge

This suspension bridge lies over the Danube River in Budapest

Miskolc

Debrecen

These unique beef cattle graze on the Hungarian plains

Hungarian gray cattle

Szeged

Nonius horse

These muscular, dark horses were once used in farming

Osijek

Goulash

Dobos cake

Paprika

Hungarian food

Spicy paprika is made from dried chilis and is used in Hungarian dishes such as goulash, a flavorful beef stew. Sweet Dobos sponge cake is made with chocolate buttercream and caramel.

Waterfalls

The Skradinski Buk are a group of high, picturesque waterfalls in Croatia's Krka National Park. There are 17 different cascades.

Pula Amphitheater

This Roman amphitheater, or stadium, once hosted gladiator fights. It is Croatia's best-preserved ancient monument.

Split

This dog breed traces its roots back to Dalmatia, a coastal region of Croatia

Dalmatian

Dubrovnik

PRODUCE

Corn

Wheat

Cheese

Soccer

Hiking

Chess

Vineyards

Sunflowers

Pigs

Handball

Sailing

INDUSTRY

Coal

KEY

UKRAINE

Ukraine is the second largest country in Europe after Russia, and is home to people from a variety of different ethnic groups. Fields of wheat and bright sunflowers cover large areas of the landscape. Industry is also important, with Ukraine being a major producer of hydroelectric power, steel, and coal.



Children's Parade

Children's Day
Children's Day is a special day that honors all children around the world. It is celebrated by a parade on June 1 every year in Kiev, the capital of Ukraine.



Trinity Church, Zhovkva

Wooden churches

Ukraine is known for its traditional wooden churches. There is a range of styles, with churches in different parts of the country having their own unique shape and look.

ROMANIA AND BULGARIA

Among the mountains and forests of Romania are dramatic castles and ancient stone churches. Bulgaria is also mountainous and on the sides of the valleys are vineyards that produce grapes for wine. In the summer months many tourists visit the Black Sea.



Horseshoe bat

Caves in the Carpathian Mountains are home to hundreds of horseshoe bats. They come out at night to feed on flying insects.



Carpathians

Rocky peaks and breathtaking scenery are features of the Carpathians, a chain of mountains that curves through the heart of Romania. In the valleys below the mountain tops are groves of pine forest.



Horezu Monastery fresco

Frescoes

Beautiful frescoes (paintings) on the ceilings and walls of the Horezu Monastery in southern Romania include scenes from the life of Christ. Details are highlighted in golden paint.



Satu Mare

Cluj-Napoca

Botoșani

Iași

Born in Onești, Nadia Comăneci was the first gymnast to be awarded a perfect score of 10 at the Olympics

Timișoara

Bran

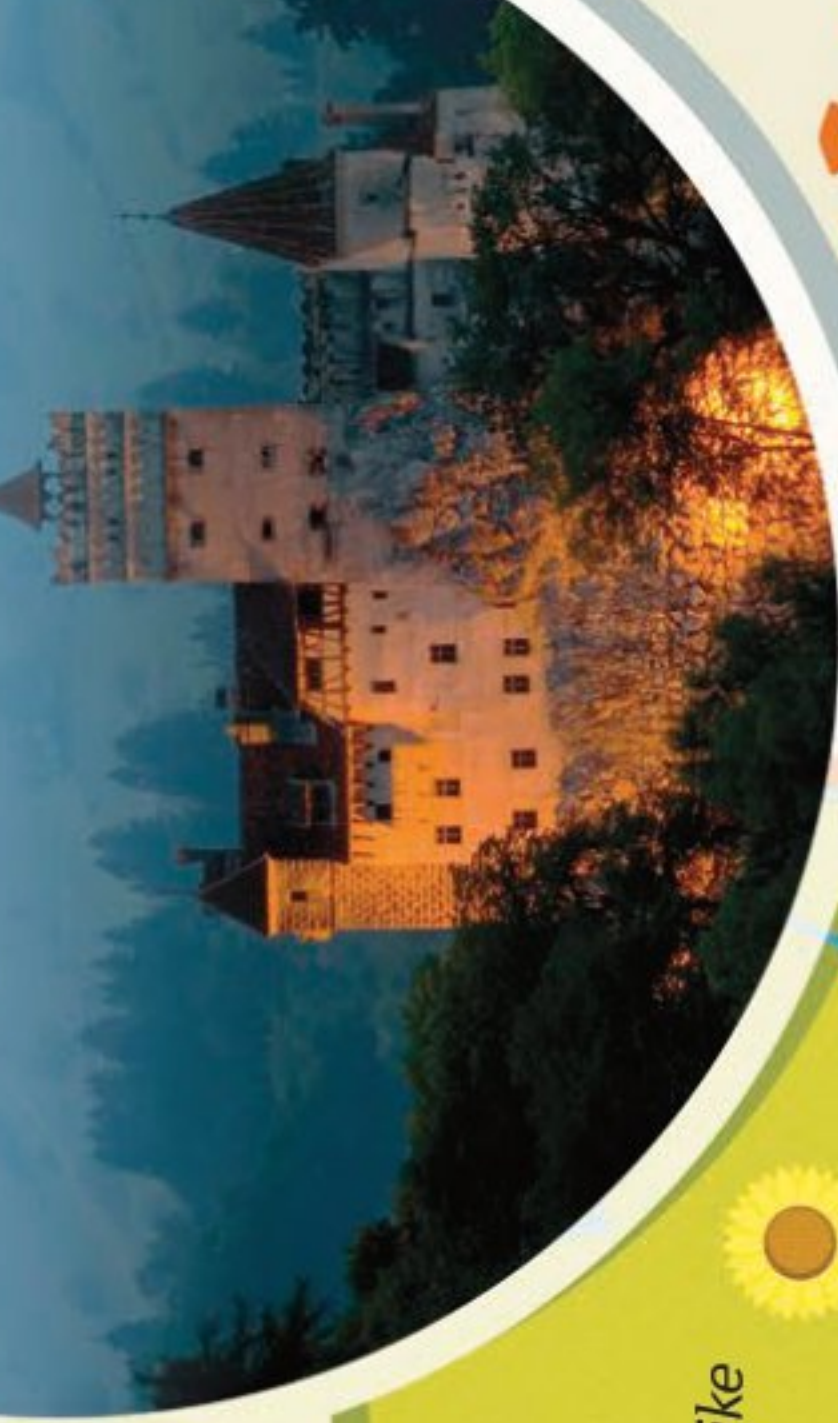
Onești

Pitești

Sphinx

Bran Castle

This fairy-talelike castle in Transylvania is often known as Dracula's Castle, because it fits the description of the castle where the vampire Dracula lived in the novel by Bram Stoker.



This unique and beautiful waterfall spreads water into fine streams

Bigar Waterfall

This rock formation in the Bucegi Natural Park looks like the face of Egypt's Sphinx



Alexander Nevsky Cathedral

This cathedral in Sofia, Bulgaria's capital, is named after a Russian prince and saint. Bulgaria's main religion is Eastern Orthodox.



SCALE

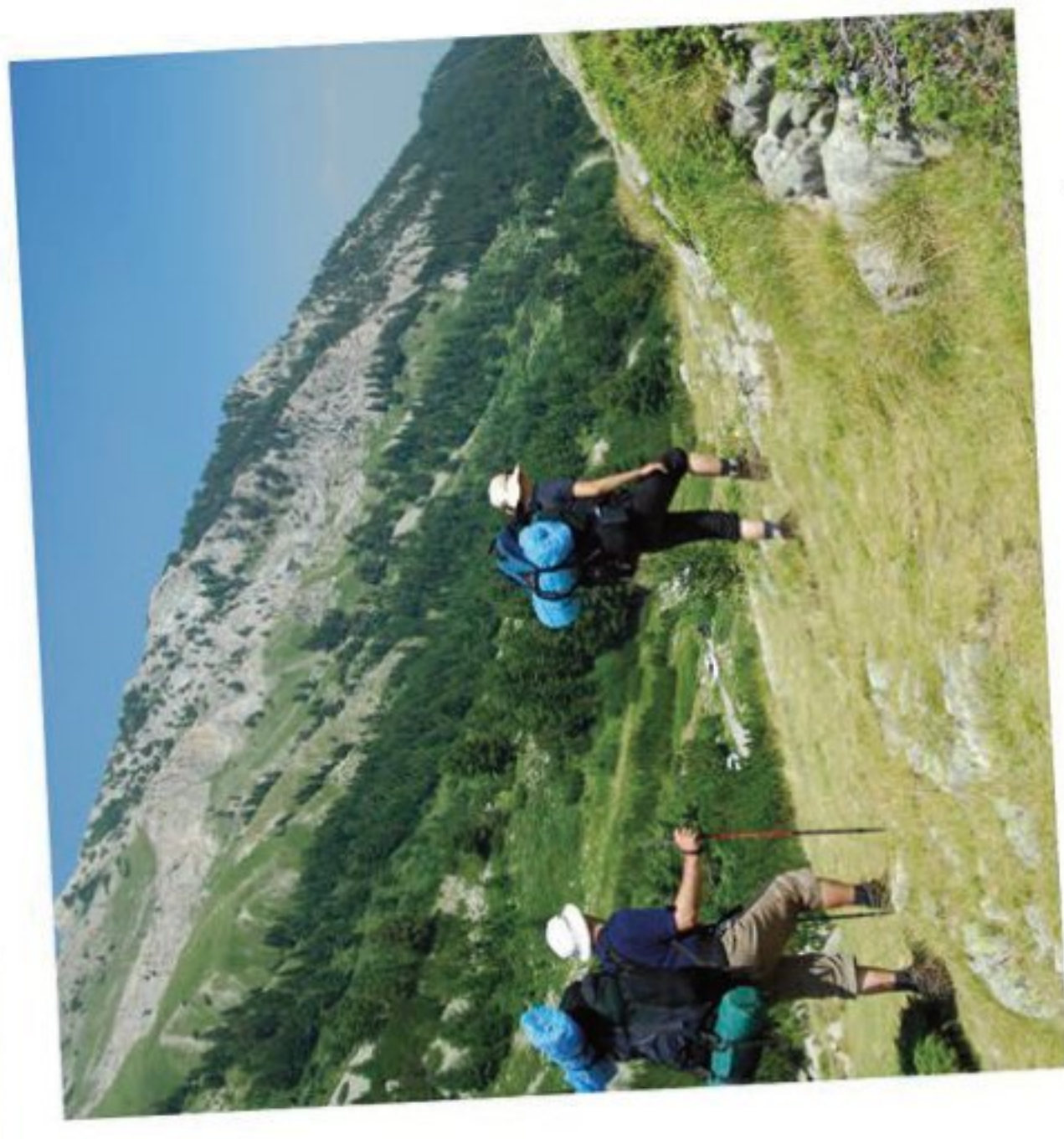


KEY

PRODUCE	Wheat	Vineyards
	Sunflowers	Sheep
	Corn	Potatoes
INDUSTRY	Wind power	Natural gas
	Coal	Cars
	Oil	Hydroelectric power
	Nuclear power	
ACTIVITIES	Hiking	Wrestling
	Skiing	

Valley of the Roses
Pink Damask roses are grown in the center of Bulgaria. The petals are used to make rose oil, which is used in perfumes, and rosewater, which can be used to flavor food.

Hiking
Mountainous landscapes, such as the Carpathians of Romania and the Pirin Mountains in southwest Bulgaria, are popular places for hiking and exploring. The Pirin Mountains are known for their many beautiful, crystal-clear lakes.



Pirin Mountains, Bulgaria



Rose oil

Greece is the home of one of the world's first great civilizations and has a long and fascinating history. Today, it is a major tourist destination. There are ancient ruins, magnificent mountains, and hundreds of islands with glorious beaches to explore, as well as delicious traditional food to enjoy.

Monasteries

Medieval monks built more than 20 monasteries at Metéora, each perched at the top of one of the tall rock pillars found at this spectacular site. Today, only six of them remain.



Dancing

Traditional dancing plays an important role in many Greek celebrations. These are happy, sociable occasions with lots of lively music.



Traditional Greek dancers



The original Olympic Games were first held at Olympia around 776 BCE.

Ancient Olympics

Sparta

This is the largest tortoise in the Mediterranean. It can live more than 100 years.

Margined tortoise

The Parthenon

This temple is part of a group of ancient ruins on the Acropolis of Athens, a rocky hill overlooking the city. It dates from the 5th century BCE.



MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Bull-leaping fresco



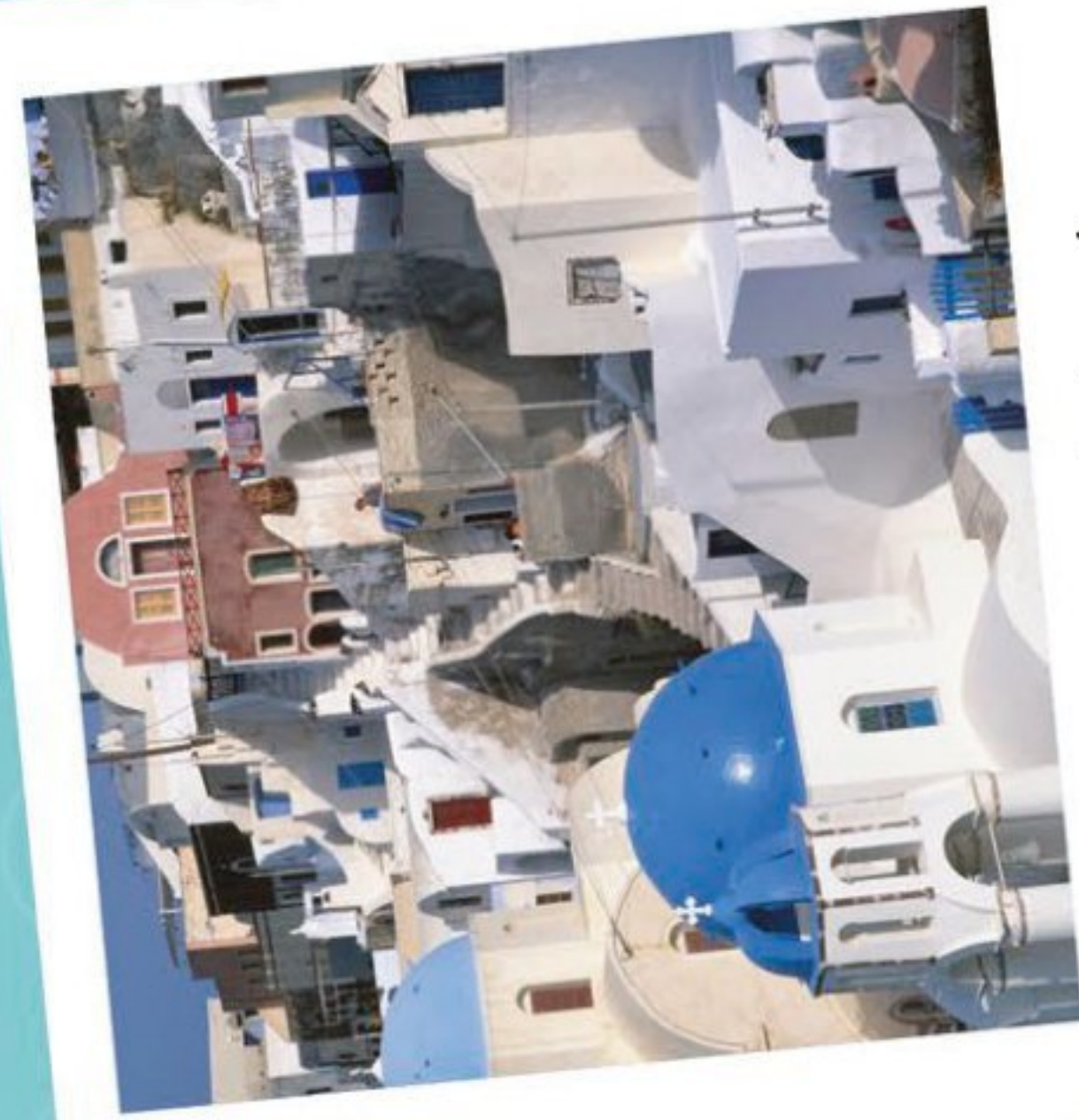
Chania

This wall painting at the ancient Palace at Knossos shows people leaping over a bull as part of a ritual

Heraklion

Greek buildings

Buildings on Greek islands are often painted white to reflect the heat of the summer sun and help keep them cool. Many church roofs are traditionally painted blue.



Blue-domed church

Tzatziki and pita bread



Traditional food

A typical Greek meal may start with several small dishes, such as tzatziki (yogurt dip) and pita bread, followed by meaty kebabs and a refreshing Greek salad with feta cheese.



Greek salad

Kebabs

These curved jars used for storing liquids, such as oil and wine, are decorated with the octopus found in the seas around Crete

Minoan octopus stirrup jar



SEA OF CRETE

Thira

Santorini

Naxos

Diving for natural sponges is an important source of income for some islanders



Samos

Kos

Kalymnos

Rhodes

Knights of Rhodes Palace



This imposing medieval castle was once a fortress, but now houses a museum

Island life

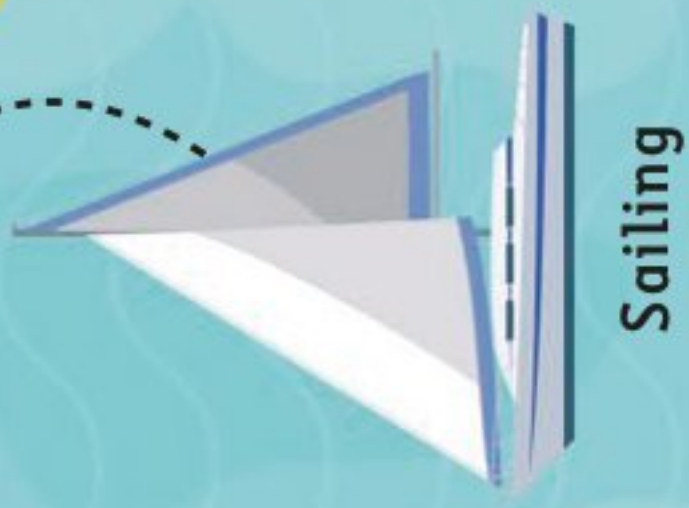
Fishing and farming were once the two main trades on the Greek islands. Tourism, however, is now taking over.

Fishing trip



Mytilini

Sailing around the Greek islands is popular in summer



Sailing

Athens

Piraeus

Chalkida



TURKEY

Lesbos

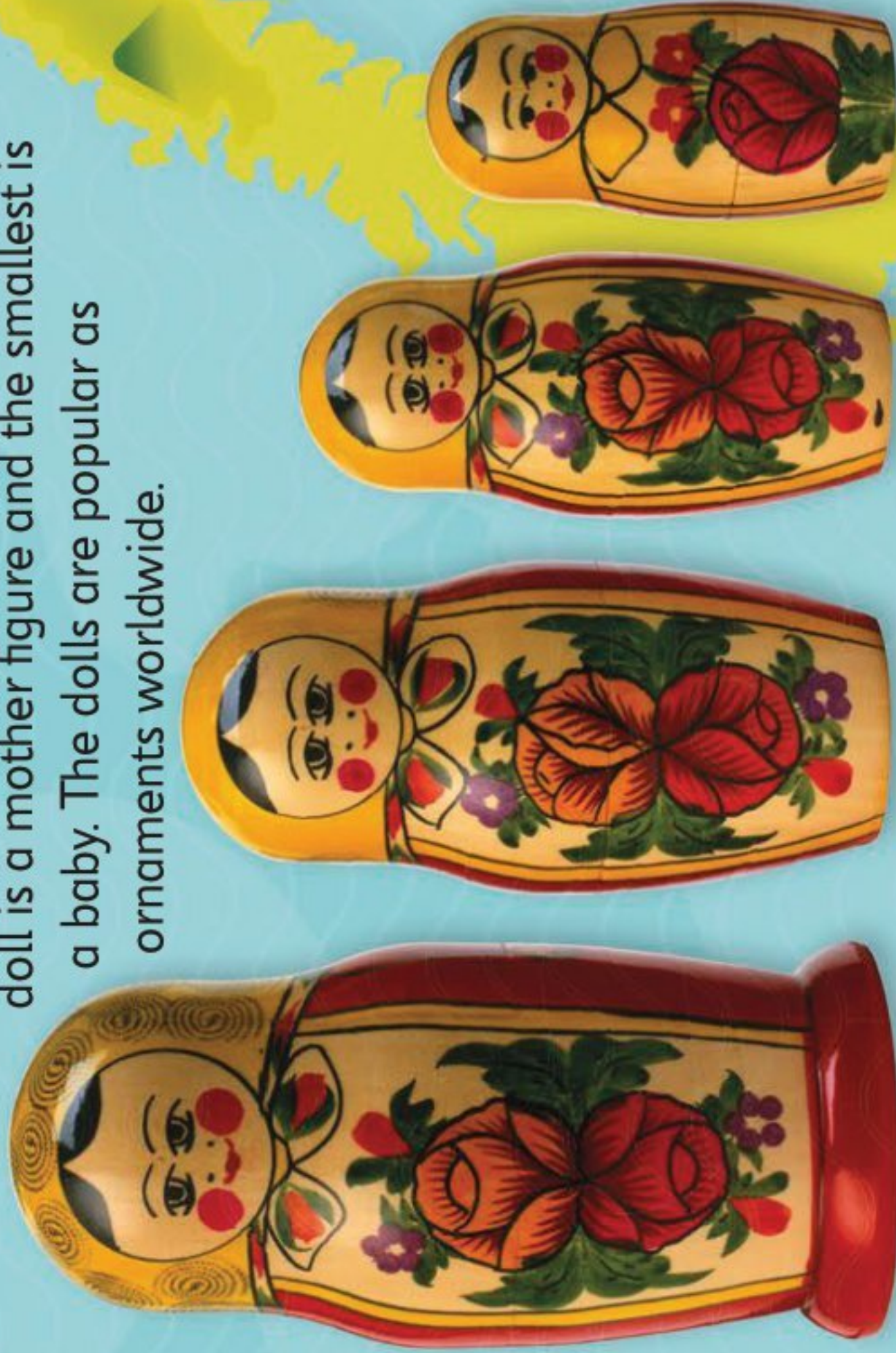


EUROPEAN RUSSIA

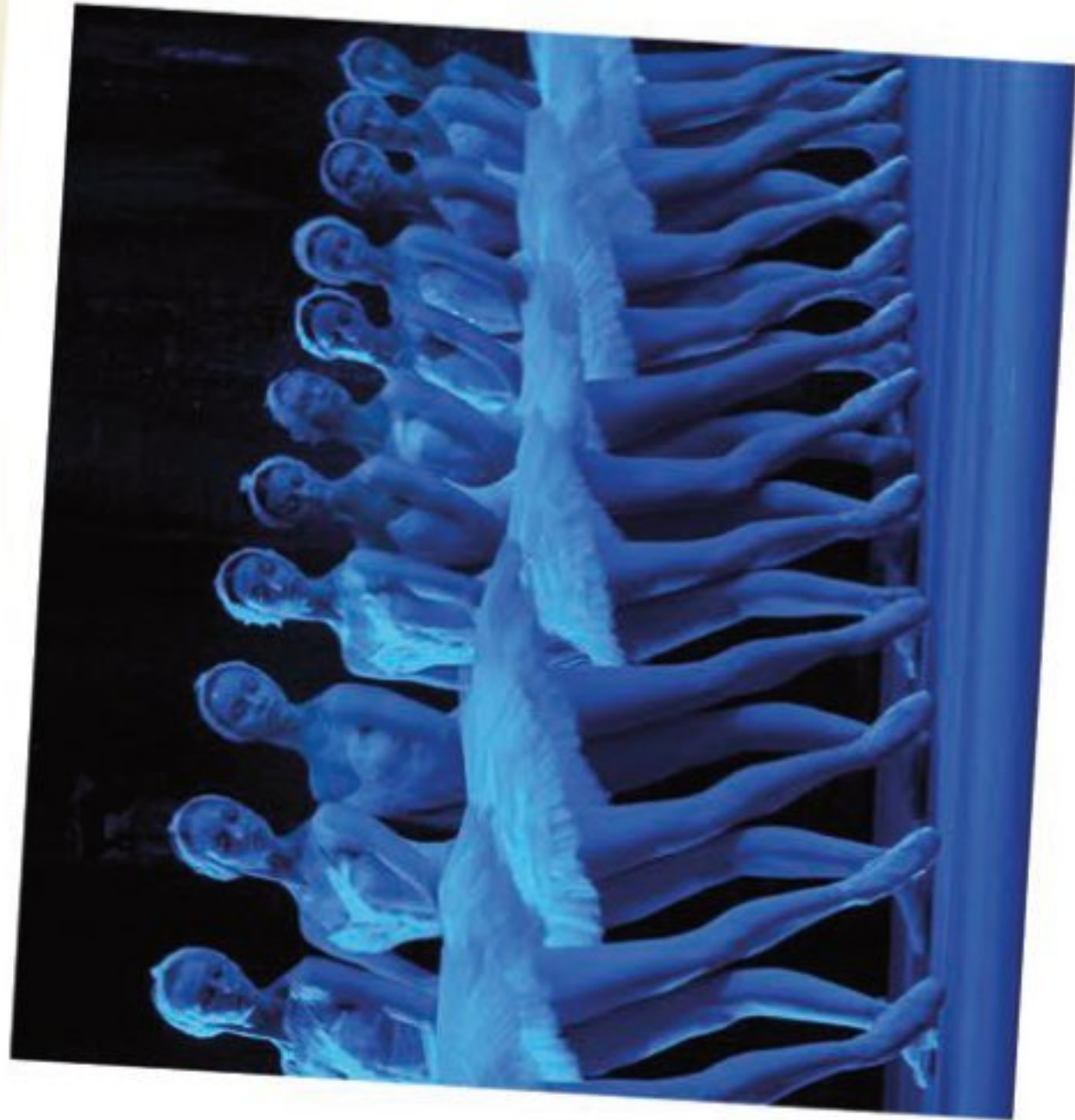
Russia is the largest country in the world and stretches across two continents: Europe and Asia. European Russia lies to the west of the Ural Mountains. The people of St. Petersburg and Moscow are proud of their history and culture.

Matryoshka doll

Wooden painted Matryoshka dolls are nested dolls that fit one inside the other. The largest doll is a mother figure and the smallest is a baby. The dolls are popular as ornaments worldwide.



This sport combines gymnastics and ballet, and Russia has produced several champion female gymnasts



Bolshoi ballet dancers

The Bolshoi

The Bolshoi is the world's oldest ballet company. Its classically trained dancers perform at the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow and at theaters in other parts of the world.

KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Vineyards	Oil
Watermelons	Gas
Strawberries	Aircraft
Raspberries	Coal
Potatoes	Cars
Sunflowers	Shipbuilding
Soccer	Pulp and paper
Chess	Lumber
Ice Hockey	

NORWAY

Murmansk

Rhythmic gymnastics

This sport combines gymnastics and ballet, and Russia has produced several champion female gymnasts

BARENTS SEA



Pechora

ARCTIC CIRCLE

WHITE SEA

Archangel

Zdravstvuyte!
Hello

Ukhta

Vorkuta



Shchi

This Russian cabbage soup also includes meat and other vegetables, such as tomatoes, carrots, and even nettles.

RUSSIA
(European Russia)

Kirov

Cherepovets

The Winter Palace was the home of Russian emperors, who were called Czars

Winter Palace

These beautifully jeweled eggs were made as Easter gifts for the Czars and their families

Fabergé egg

St. Petersburg

FINLAND

Lake Ladoga

Lake Onega

ESTONIA

LATVIA

URAL MOUNTAINS

Racing troikas—carriages mounted on skis and pulled by three horses—is a popular sport in winter.



BLARUS

Moscow



Tolstoy wrote the classic novels *Anna Karenina* and *War and Peace*. He died at Astapovo railroad station, south of Moscow, which was later named after him.

Voronezh



St. Basil's Cathedral

This colorful cathedral in Moscow's Red Square has onion-shaped domes.

Nizhny Novgorod

Tchaikovsky was one of the first Russian composers to become popular worldwide...



Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Kazan



Perm

Ufa

This strong alcoholic drink is a Russian specialty.



Samara



Vodka

UKRAINE



Blinis

Rostov-on-Don

Figure skating is popular in Russia; skaters perform solo or in pairs.



Figure skating

Sochi



Raspberries

Raspberries and blinis

Blinis are small pancakes and are usually topped with caviar (fish eggs) and sour cream. Raspberries are another favorite delicacy. They are grown in southwestern Russia.

CAUCASUS MOUNTAINS

GEORGIA

Astrakhan

Balalaika

This Russian, triangular-shaped string instrument is similar to a guitar.



Astrakhan

Volga

Don

KAZAKHSTAN

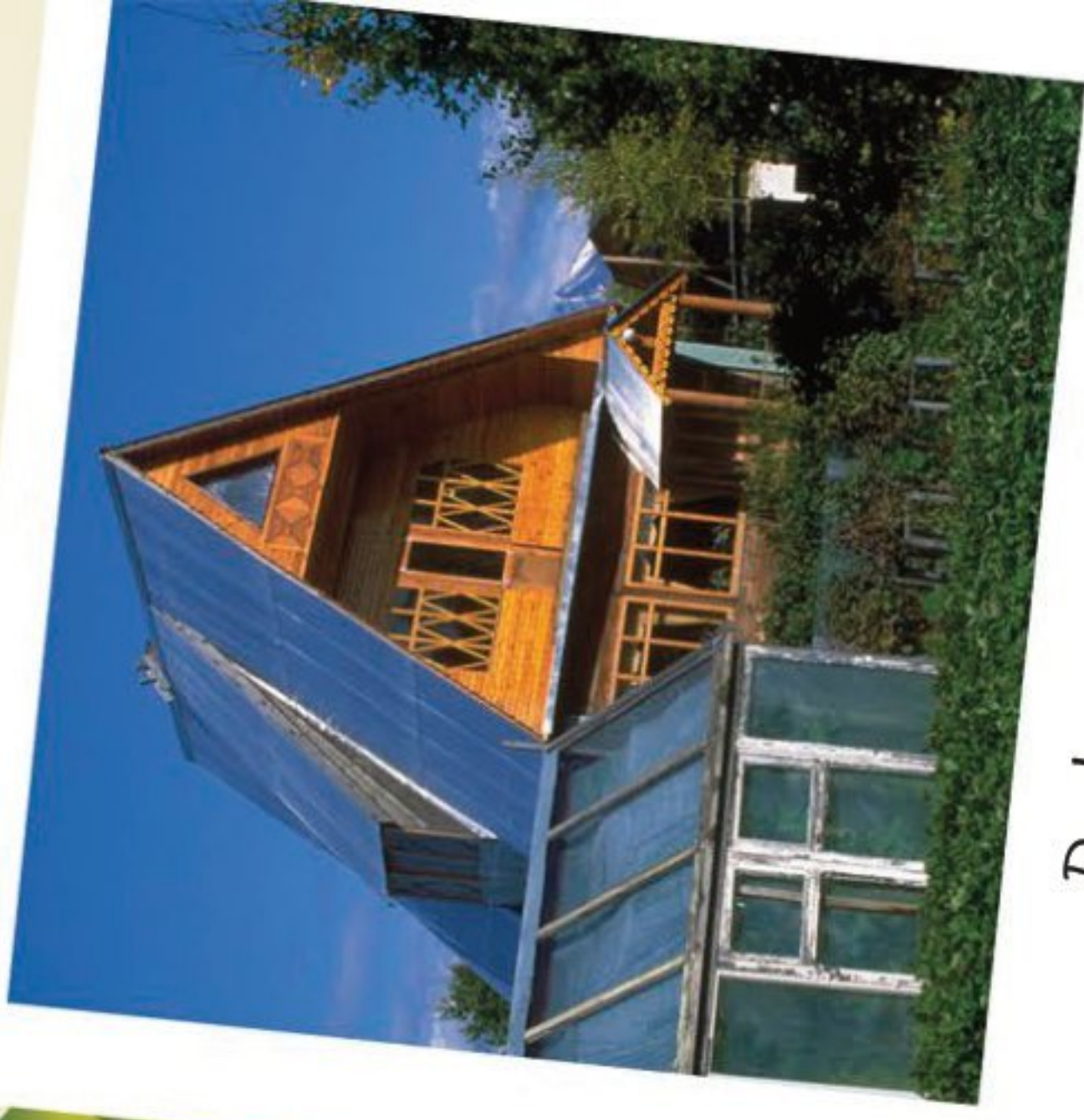
Subway station

The underground railroad system in Moscow is fast and efficient. Its stations are decorated with beautiful paintings and sculptures.



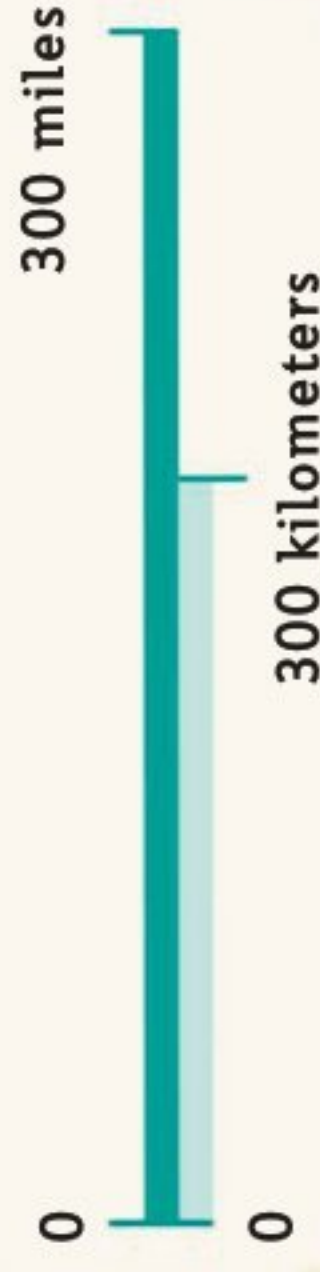
Dachas
Some people who live in big Russian cities have a second home in the country, known as a dacha. Here, they go to relax and grow fruit and vegetables in the garden.

Dacha and garden



RUSSIA
(Asian Russia)

SCALE

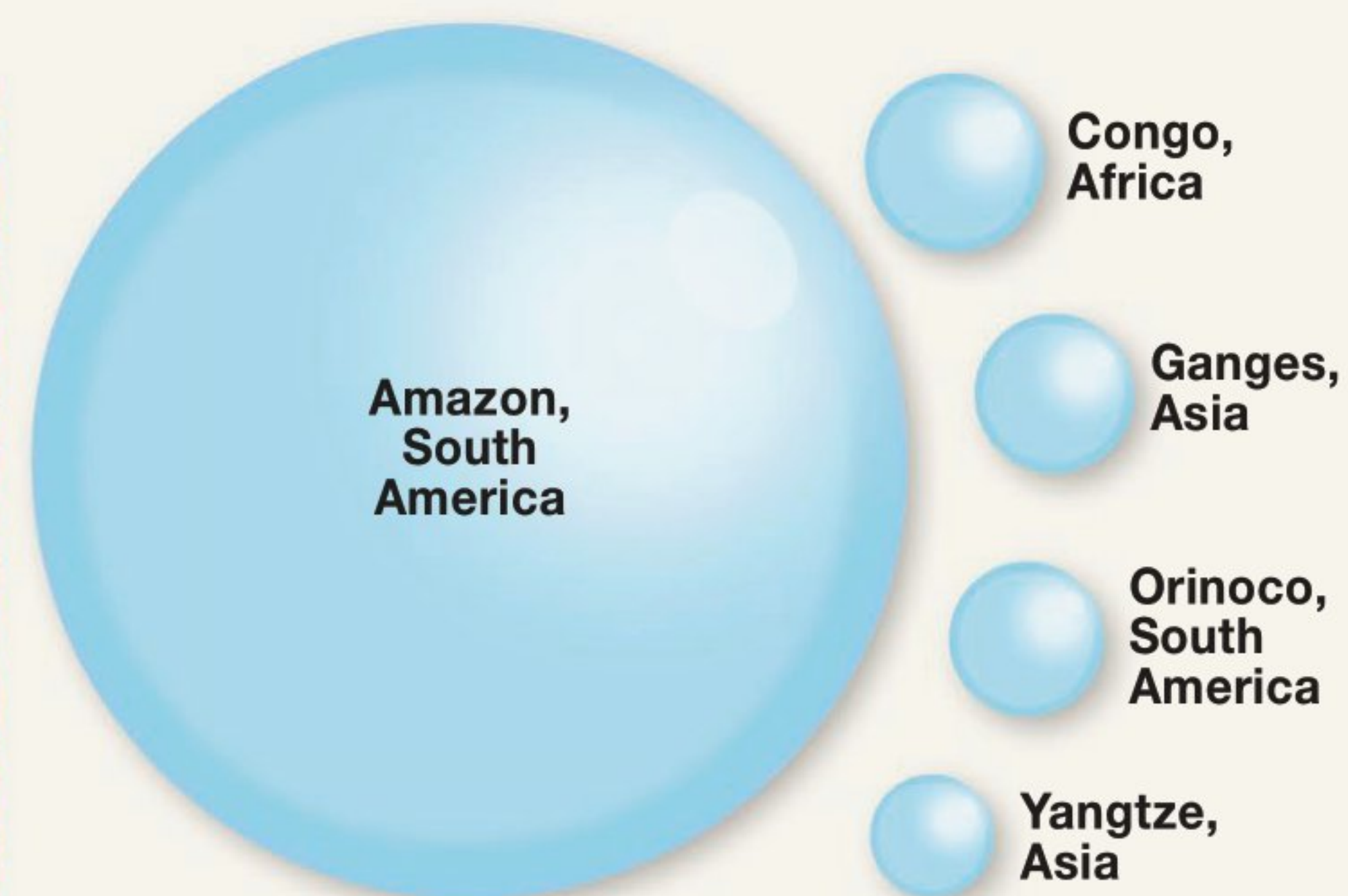


Symbol of Russia

The brown bear represents the size and power of the country to Russians and the rest of the world.

RIVERS, LAKES, AND MOUNTAINS

Earth's surface is crisscrossed with streams and rivers, lakes, and high mountains. Many rivers begin as streams high up in the mountains, flow downhill through valleys to low-lying areas, and then pour out into seas. Lakes are large pools of water surrounded by land. Mountains are formed over millions of years, as huge areas of land push into each other, forcing the ground upward.



Five rivers with the most water

The Amazon has the most water by far. Its closest rivals each hold less than one-fifth of the water that flows along the Amazon. Rivers with the most water are formed in places with heavy rainfall, such as rain forests. They also have wide surface areas to catch the rain.

Five longest rivers

The longest rivers in the world flow across large continents. They begin in the mountains and flow all the way to the open sea.

Nile, Africa 4,258 miles (6,853 km)

The Nile flows into the Mediterranean Sea

Amazon, South America 3,999 miles (6,437 km)



Yangtze, Asia 3,915 miles (6,300 km)

The Yangtze flows into the Pacific Ocean

Mississippi, North America 2,320 miles (3,734 km)

The Mississippi flows into the Gulf of Mexico

Yenisei, Asia 2,167 miles (3,487 km)

The Yenisei flows into the Arctic Ocean

Five highest mountains

The highest mountains in the world are all in Asia. They are found in the borderlands between China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan. There is little difference in height between them, but there is no doubt that Mount Everest has the highest peak.

This mountain is close to Everest. Its name means "south peak"

Everest is on the border between Nepal and China

Makalu is one of the hardest mountains in the world to climb

This mountain lies between Nepal and India

K2 lies between China and Pakistan

1. Mount Everest
29,029 ft (8,848 m)

2. K2
28,251 ft (8,611 m)

3. Kangchenjunga
28,169 ft (8,586 m)

4. Lhotse
27,940 ft (8,516 m)

5. Makalu
27,838 ft (8,485 m)



Three largest lakes

The three biggest lakes are spread across four different continents. The largest is the Caspian Sea, which borders Asia and Europe. It has salty water and is both a sea and a lake. Lake Superior is the world's largest freshwater lake.

1. Caspian Sea, Asia and Europe
143,000 sq miles
(371,000 sq km)



2. Lake Superior, North America
31,820 sq miles
(82,414 sq km)



3. Lake Victoria, Africa
26,828 sq miles
(69,485 sq km)

Victoria is the largest tropical lake and is the source of the Nile River.

LAND OF LAKES



There are more than 187,000 lakes in Finland, which gives the country the nickname "The Land of the Thousand Lakes."

The Amazon flows into the Atlantic Ocean



FASTEST-FLOWING RIVER



The Amazon is the fastest-flowing river in the world. Its waves are so strong that it is possible to surf down the river!

Mountains make up about one-fifth of the world's landscape.

1. Mount Tambora, Indonesia 1815 CE

2. Changbaishan Volcano, China 969 CE

3. Mount Thera, Santorini, Greece 1610 BCE

Three powerful volcanic eruptions

Many volcanoes are also mountains. These are three of the most powerful volcanic eruptions in history. When they erupt, volcanoes can cause great damage and change the landscape.



1. In which country would you find the Taj Mahal?



2. Atatürk was the first president of which country?



3. Which country is known for its Terra-cotta Army?



4. In which country would you find tents called ghers?



ASIA

Asia is the world's largest, most crowded continent. China and India are big, bustling countries, where industry is growing rapidly. The main world religions all began in Asia. Many early civilizations flourished here, and the continent has many ancient sites.

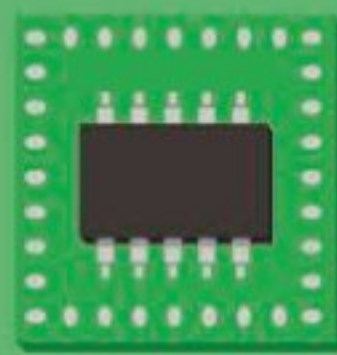
8. Rose mallow is the national flower of which country?

7. What is Japan's tallest structure called?

6. Which country is the home of table tennis?

5. On which island would you find the Taipei 101 tower?

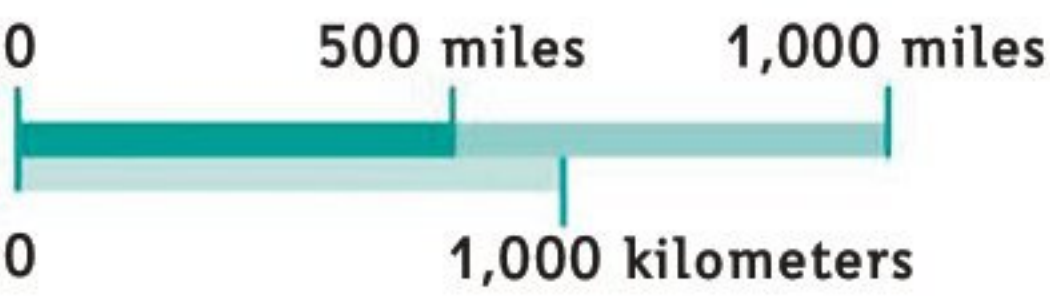
You can find all the answers and more quizzes on pages 120-121.



ASIA

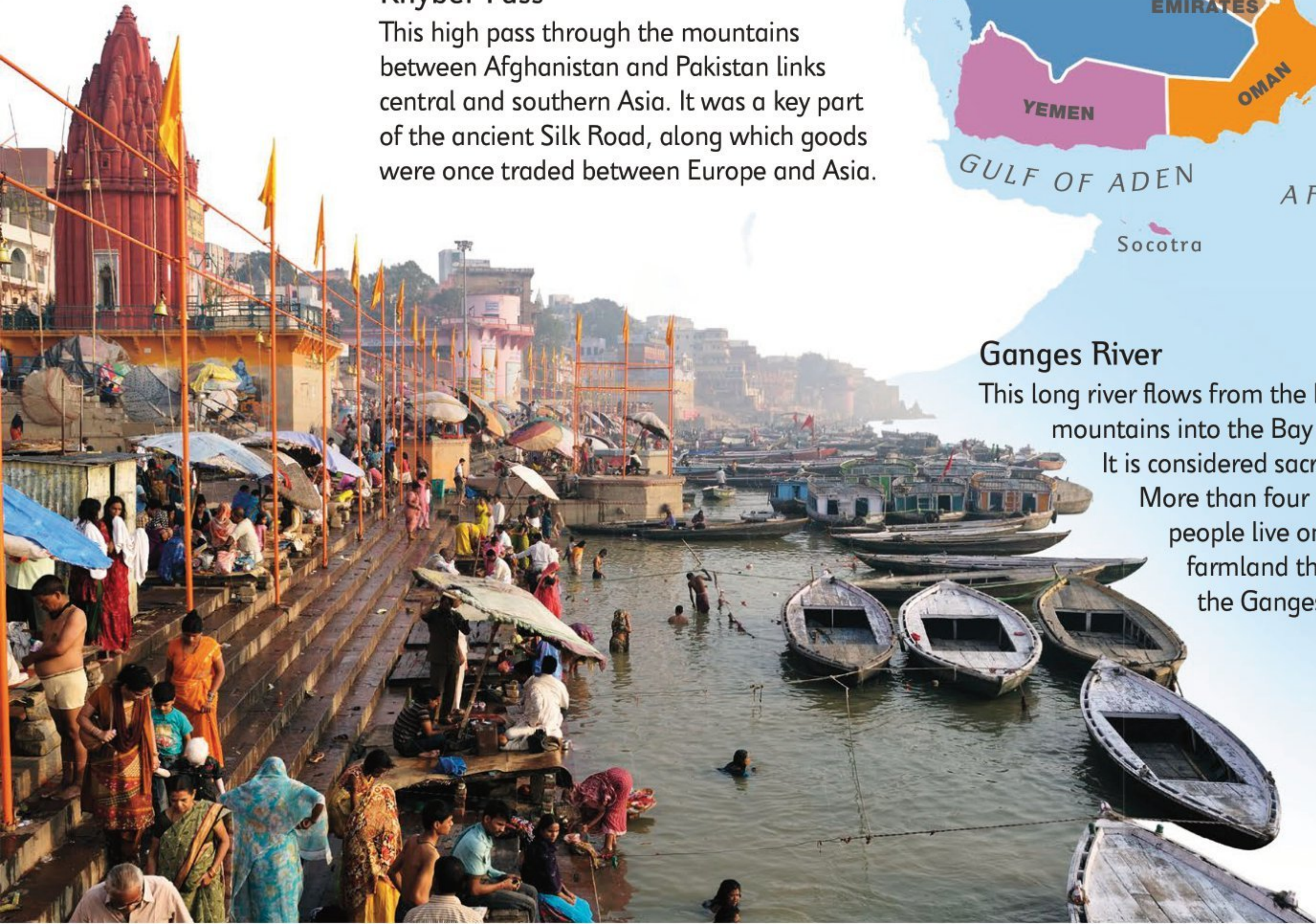
Asia is the world's largest continent and home to over half the world's population. Countries range from big, powerful nations, such as China, to the tiny state of Qatar. The landscape includes dry deserts, green forests, snowy mountains, and vast expanses of wild, open countryside.

SCALE



Khyber Pass

This high pass through the mountains between Afghanistan and Pakistan links central and southern Asia. It was a key part of the ancient Silk Road, along which goods were once traded between Europe and Asia.



Ganges River

This long river flows from the Himalayan mountains into the Bay of Bengal. It is considered sacred by Hindus. More than four million people live on the fertile farmland that surrounds the Ganges.

Dead Sea

The Dead Sea, on the borders of Israel, Jordan, and the West Bank, is a large salt lake. It gets its name because the water is too salty for any animal to live there. The salt, however, makes floating in the water easy, and is used in health and skin care products.





Mongolian plains

Most of Mongolia is made up of wild, grassy plains. Around a third of the country's people live a nomadic life, roaming the plains on horseback and living in large tents called ghers.



Seoul

This crowded city is the capital of South Korea. It is an exciting mix of the old and the new, with traditional street markets and ancient Buddhist temples next to modern high-rise buildings and shops selling all the latest high-tech gadgets.

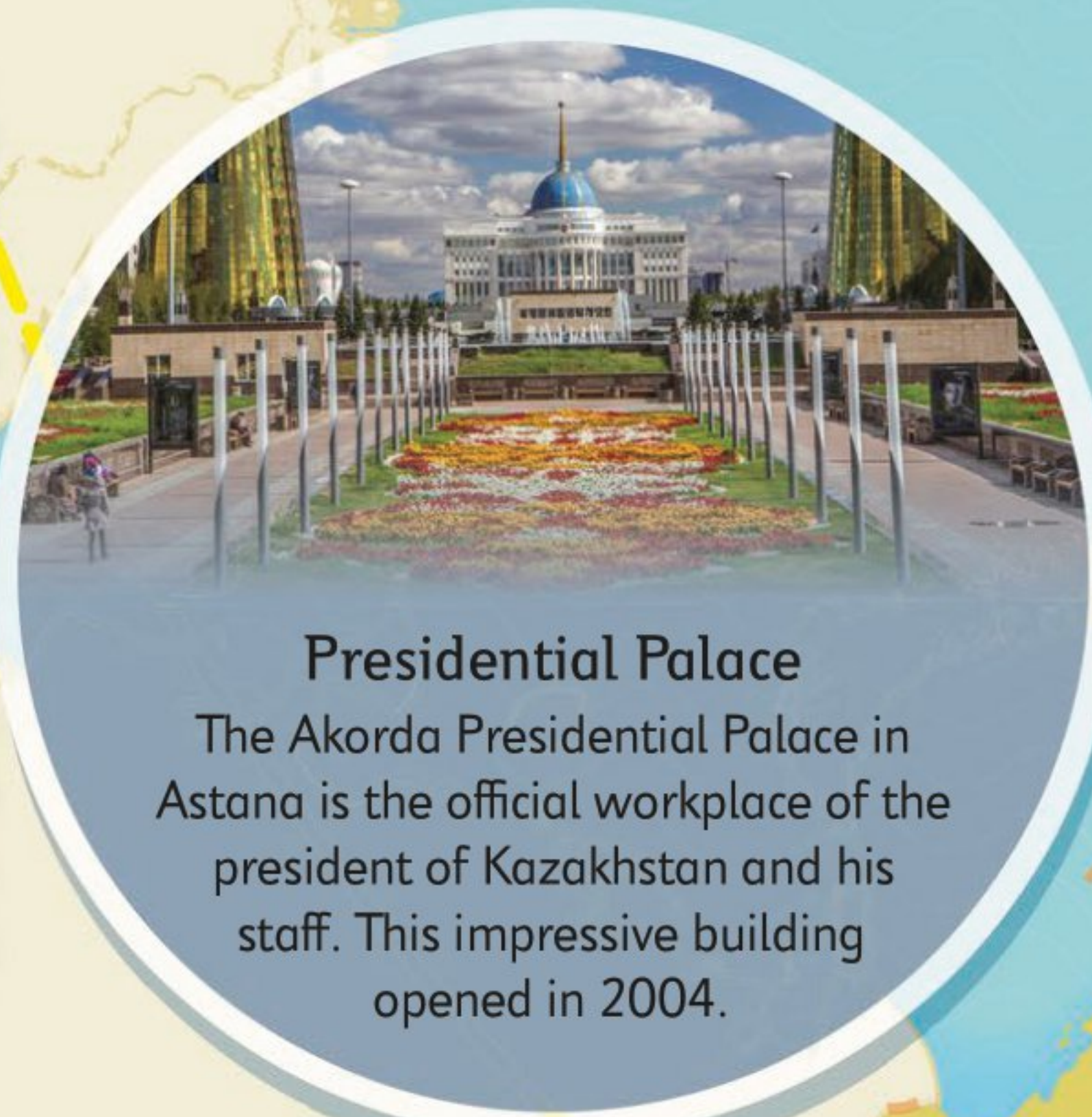


Rice fields

Rice is grown in many parts of Asia, including China, India, and Southeast Asia. Farmers grow the rice in fields that are flooded with water, called paddy fields.

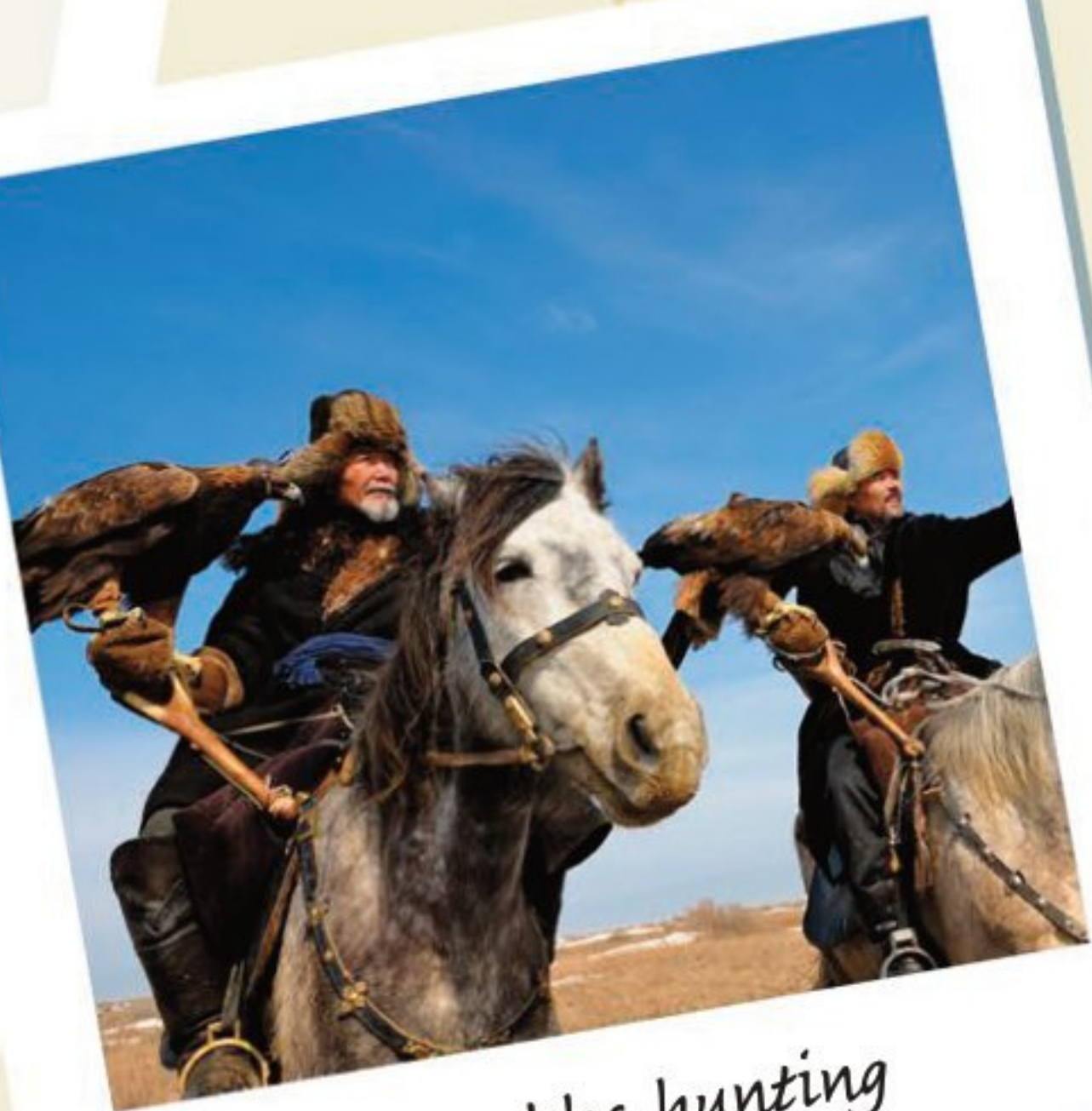
ASIAN RUSSIA AND KAZAKHSTAN

Asian Russia stretches from Europe's border to the Pacific Ocean. Much of the landscape is rugged, with few people living there. Kazakhstan lies to the southwest. This country also has large open spaces, including the vast plains of the Kazakh Steppe.



Presidential Palace

The Akorda Presidential Palace in Astana is the official workplace of the president of Kazakhstan and his staff. This impressive building opened in 2004.



Kazakhs hunting

Hunting with golden eagles

Kazakhs are skilled horse riders. They hunt on horseback on the wide, open plains, using golden eagles to catch prey, such as foxes and hares.



KEY

PRODUCE

- Wheat
- Sugar beets
- Cattle
- Salmon
- Sheep
- Bactrian camel

INDUSTRY

- Natural gas
- Oil
- Coal
- Diamonds
- Gold
- Lumber
- Aluminum
- Steel
- Iron
- Uranium
- Chromium

SPORT

- Ice hockey

NATURAL FEATURES

- Volcanoes
- Earthquakes

Sälem!
Hello

Weightlifting is popular in Kazakhstan, with competitions for both men and women.

Weightlifting

KAZAKHSTAN

This 318-ft (97-m) tower is the symbol of Astana.

Bayterek Monument

Karaganda

Lake Balkhash

Shymkent

Taraz

Almaty

Zenkov Cathedral

Hazrat Sultan Mosque

This huge mosque in Kazakhstan's capital, Astana, can hold more than 10,000 worshippers.

Cross-country skiing

This sport is a popular form of exercise during the long winter months.

Noril'sk

These thin, white and silver trees are covered in paperlike bark.

Silver birch

This antelope has an unusually shaped nose that filters out the dust blowing across the plains in summer.

Saiga antelope

Krasnoyarsk

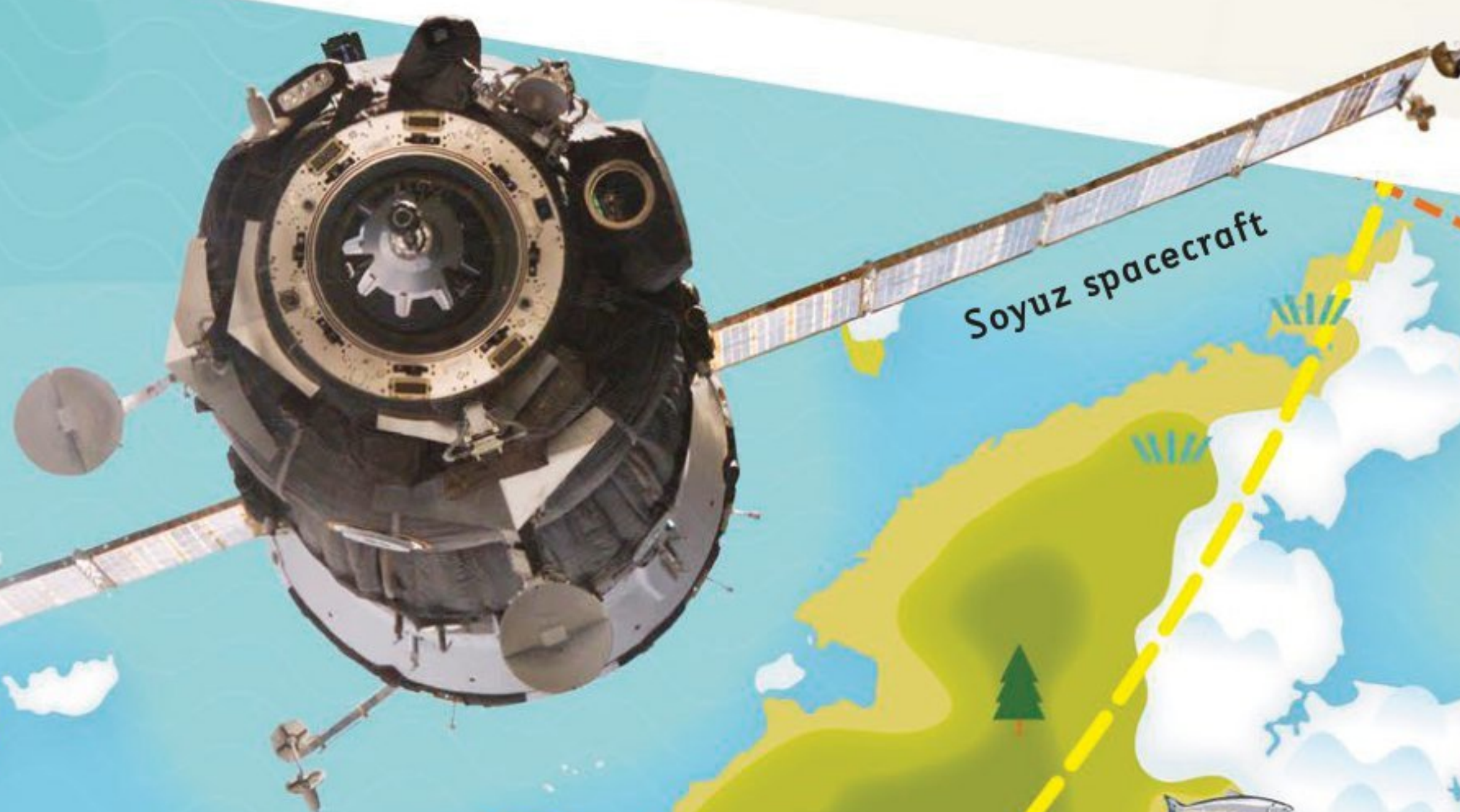
This antelope has an unusually shaped nose that filters out the dust blowing across the plains in summer.

SCALE



International Space Station

The space station orbits the Earth and was built using Russian technology. Russia's Soyuz spacecraft carries people and supplies to the space station.



USA

BERING SEA

Do
svidaniya!
Good-bye

At 15,580 ft (4,750 m),
this is the highest, active
volcano in Europe and Asia

Klyuchevskaya
Sopka

Magadan

Pacific salmon

These hot thermal springs
naturally heat water to a
warming temperature of
104–140°F (40–60°C)

Kamchatka
hot springs

Salmon farming

Pacific salmon are farmed
off the eastern coast of Russia.
They are kept in netted areas
of the sea and fed on fishfood
pellets and small fish.

Siberian tiger

The Siberian, or Amur, tiger lives
in forests in the far east of Russia.
These tigers are rare, and many
live in protected
conservation areas.

This small squirrel can glide from
tree to tree using the skin stretched
between its legs as a parachute

Siberian
flying squirrel

This small seal lives
only in Lake Baikal

Baikal seal

Irkutsk

YABLONOI
MOUNTAINS

Yakutsk

Yakuts

Yakut people live in the east
of Russia. Those near the
coast catch fish and breed
reindeer, while Yakuts in the
south raise cattle and horses

This is the longest
railroad in the world,
stretching 5,780
miles (9,300 km)
from Moscow in
Europe to the far
east of Russia

Khabarovsk

Trans-Siberian
Railroad

Vladivostok

Lake Baikal

Lake Baikal is the world's
oldest and deepest freshwater lake.
The lake is home to more than 1,500
unique species of plants and animals.



MONGOLIA



CHINA

TURKEY

Turkey lies partly in Asia and partly in Europe and is influenced by both Eastern and Western culture. Istanbul, the historic city on the Bosphorus River, links the two continents. This huge country has a varied landscape, and its mountains, lakes, beaches, and ancient sites make it attractive to tourists.

Sultan Ahmed Mosque

This mosque in Istanbul is also called the Blue Mosque, because the walls of the interior are covered in light blue tiles. It has six tall minarets, or towers.



Tiles panel, Topkapi Palace

Iznik tiles

These beautiful painted tiles are named after the town where they were made. They decorate the walls of the Topkapi Palace in Istanbul.

Cotton Palace

This unique geological formation is called Pamukkale, or Cotton Palace. It has white limestone terraces, thermal pools, and hot springs, as well as Roman ruins.



KEY

PRODUCE

Wheat

Sunflowers

Barley

Cotton

Potatoes

Vineyards

Sheep

Goats

NATURAL FEATURES

Green turtle

Earthquakes

INDUSTRY

Cars

Shipbuilding

Electronics

Natural gas

SPORT

Basketball

Soccer

Scuba diving

Hiking



Black Sea folk dancers

Traditional dance

Folk dancing is popular throughout Turkey. In the Black Sea region, men and women dress in black and red outfits trimmed with gold and silver. They dance using short, quick steps accompanied by violins.

Turkish coffee is very strong

Turkish coffee

Dondurma

Kabab b'il karaz

Turkish food

The food of Turkey has rich flavors and aromas. Kabab b'il karaz (sour cherry kebab) is made from minced lamb and sour cherry. Dondurma is a thick, sweet ice cream.



BLACK SEA

Trabzon

This bird nests in Turkish mountains

Alpine chough

Cherries

Turkey is the world's largest producer of cherries

Güle güle!
Good-bye

PONTIC MOUNTAINS

Euphrates

Kayseri

Malatya

The remains of large statues and a royal tomb are found on this mountain

Mount Nemrut

Diyarbakir

Batman

Lake Van

Van

ARMENIA

AZERBAIJAN



IRAN

Adana

Gaziantep

SYRIA

Green lizard

Large green lizards live among rocks and bushes. They like to bask in the Sun and eat insects.

SCALE

0 50 miles 100 miles
0 100 kilometers

SYRIA AND LEBANON

Syria is largely hot desert, but most people live in the cooler, fertile coastal areas by the Mediterranean Sea. Lebanon lies to the southwest of Syria and has a varied cultural history. The land covered by Syria and Lebanon was once part of the Roman Empire.



Woman weaving on a loom

Carpet weaving

Beautiful, handwoven carpets are produced in Syria. Their highly detailed, traditional patterns come in a mix of colors, with red and black being particularly popular.

PRODUCE



INDUSTRY



KEY



Mortuary statue

Syrian artifacts

Archeologists have uncovered many ancient artifacts in Syria. These include gold coins, such as Umayyad dinars, and mortuary statues, used to mark graves.

Roman ruins at Tyre

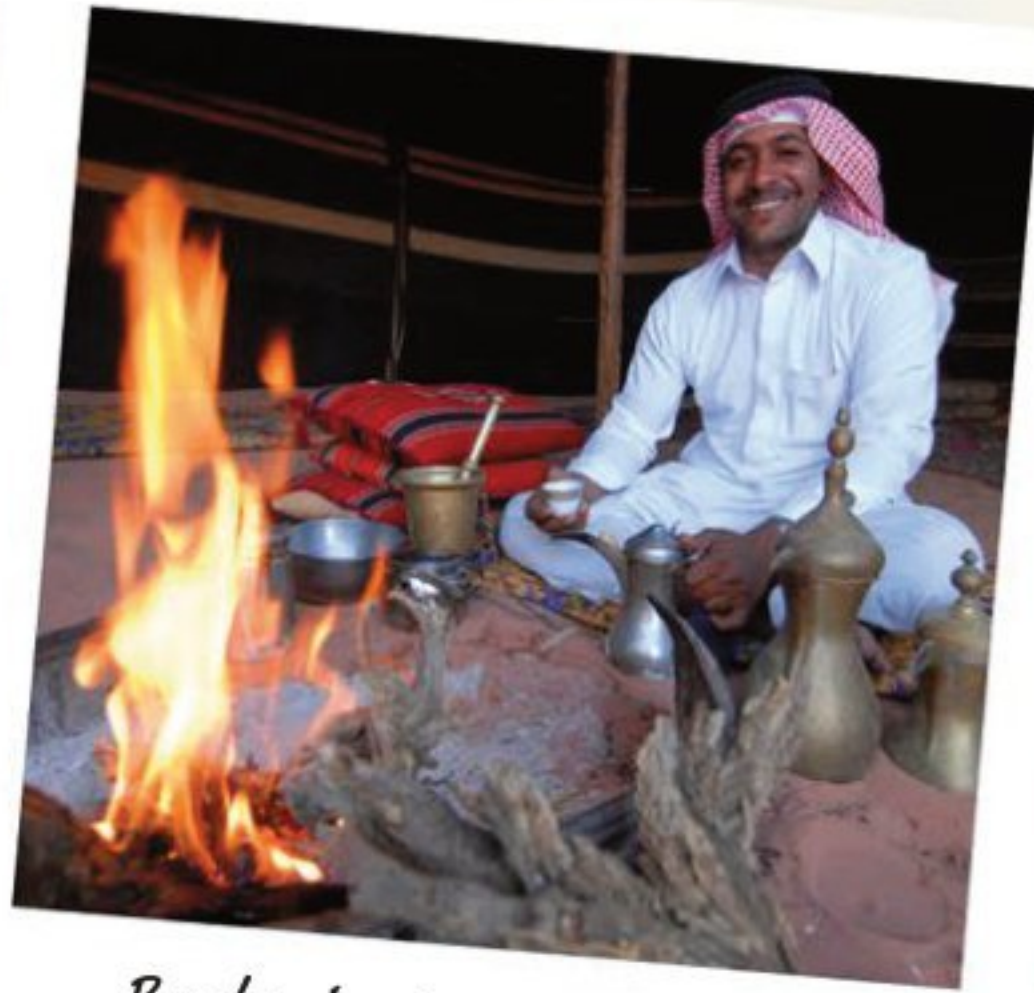
The ruins of the Roman city at Tyre in south Lebanon are some of the best preserved ancient monuments in the world.



Triumphal Arch at Tyre

Lebanese food

Lebanese food includes delicious snacks such as fatayer, which is a mini pie filled with meat, spinach, or cheese, and light dishes such as tabbouleh, a salad of bulgur wheat, tomatoes, onions, and herbs.



Bedouin brewing coffee

Bedouin hospitality

The Bedouin tribes that roam the desert are known for their hospitality. Guests are welcomed and served food and drink, including freshly brewed coffee and spiced tea.

SCALE



Mae
alssama!
Good-bye

KEY

PRODUCE

Wheat

Olives and oil

Vineyards

Grapefruit

Goats

Oranges

INDUSTRY

Natural Gas

Fishing

Figs

Almonds

Avocados

Cattle

Sheep

ACTIVITIES

Scuba diving

NATURAL FEATURES

Coral reef

JORDAN



Haifa

This gallery contains a major collection of early 20th-century art

Crafts

Nazareth

Tel Aviv Museum of Art

Tel Aviv

This church in Bethlehem was built on what is believed to be the birthplace of Jesus.

Bethlehem

Gaza

Church of the Nativity

ISRAEL

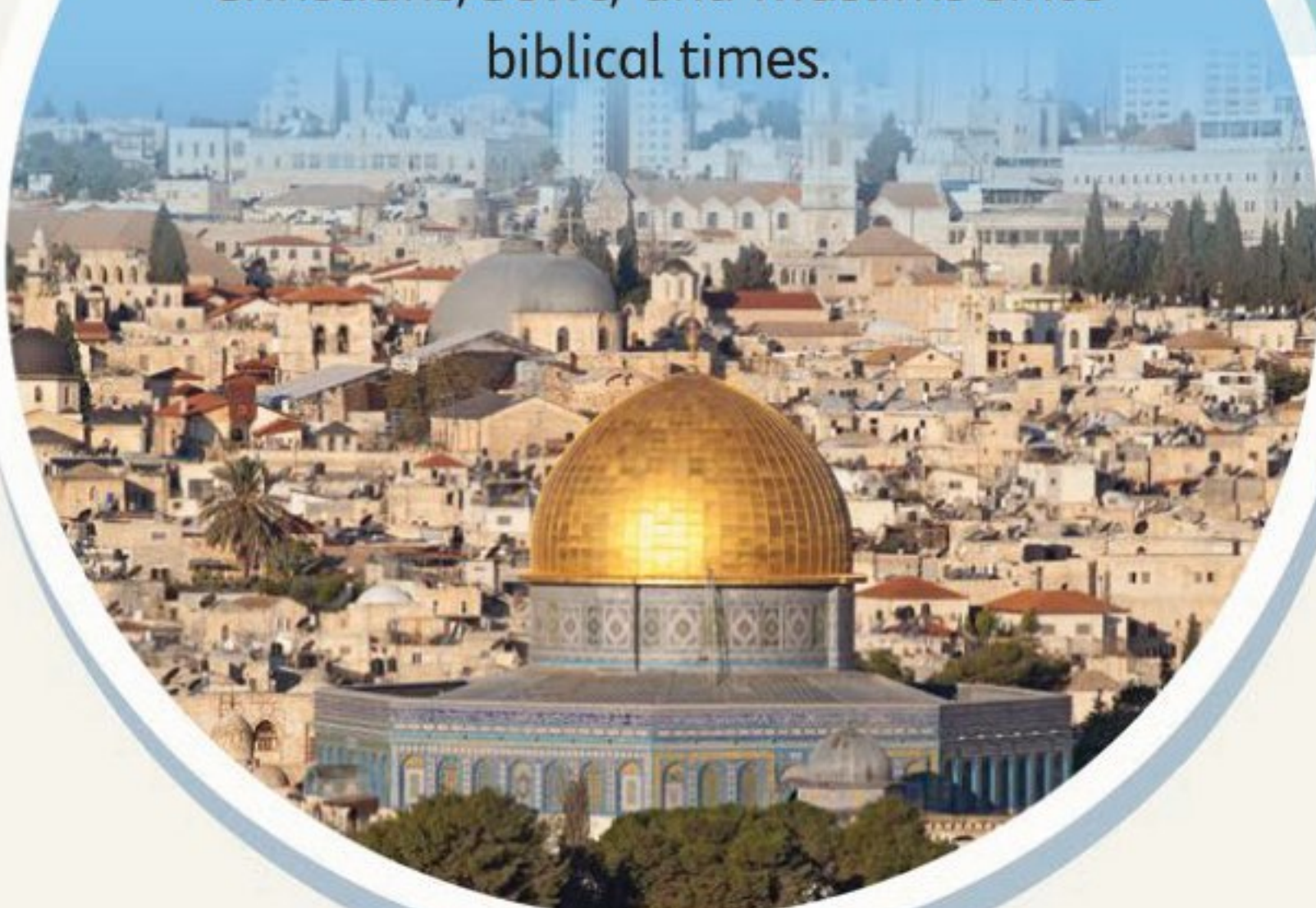
Shalom!
Hello

Copper has been mined in this valley for centuries, and many ancient remains have been found here.

EGYPT

Jerusalem

The ancient city of Jerusalem has been a place of pilgrimage for Christians, Jews, and Muslims since biblical times.



Traditional crafts of the region include pottery and colorful, handwoven carpets

Irbid

Temple of Artemis

Zarqa

Amman

Jerusalem

This sculpture is on Mount Nebo, where the Bible says Moses died and was buried

Brazen serpent sculpture

These ancient scrolls were found in the Qumran caves, and are some of the oldest texts of the Hebrew Bible

Dead Sea scrolls

Be'er Sheva

Jordan's national flower blooms briefly in spring and is a symbol of renewal

Black iris

Petra

Oryx, a type of antelope, live in the desert. Their long horns can be up to 30 in (70 cm) long

Timna Valley

Elat

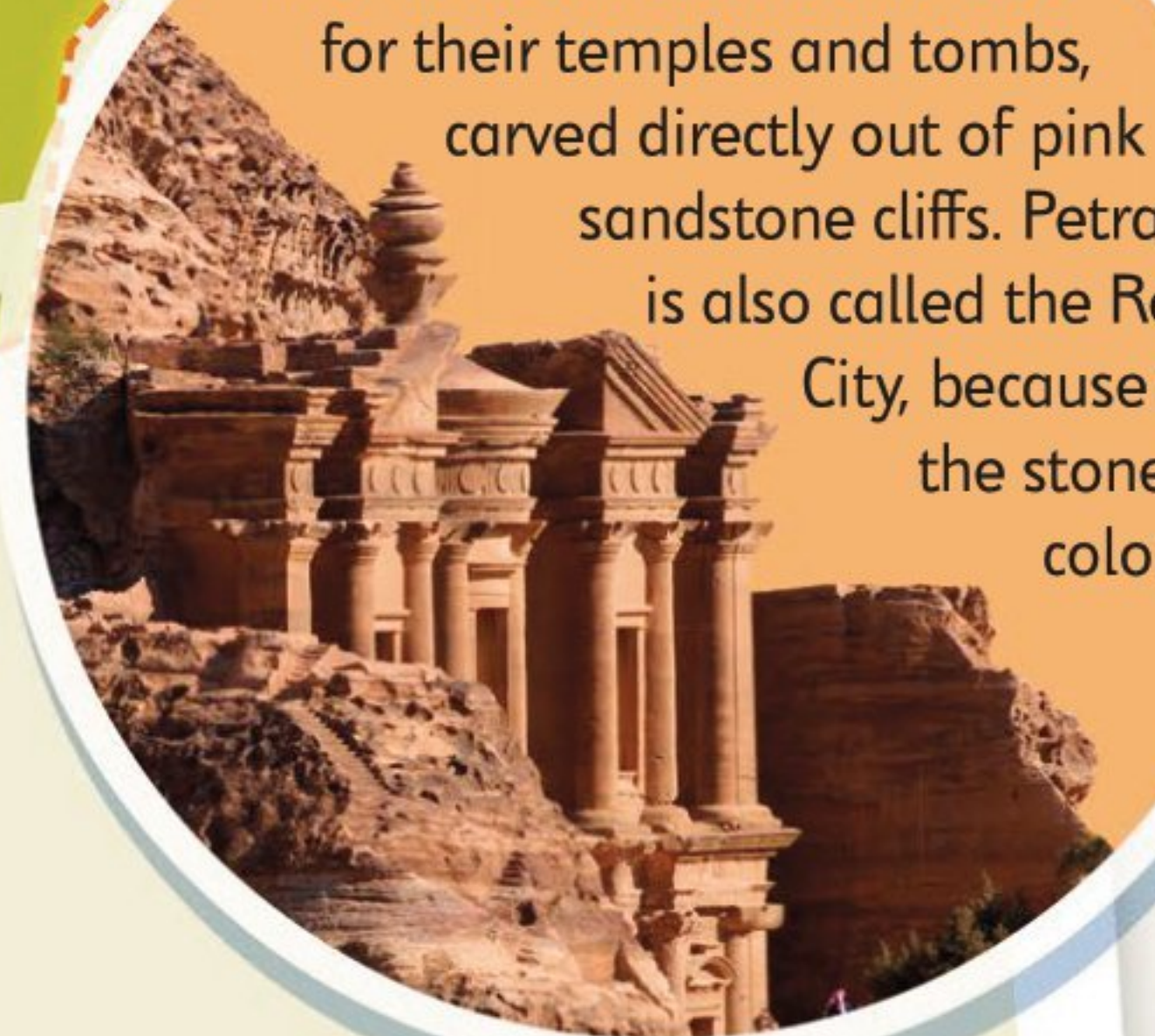
Arabian Oryx

Aqaba

SAUDI ARABIA

Petra

The ruins of Petra are famous for their temples and tombs, carved directly out of pink sandstone cliffs. Petra is also called the Rose City, because of the stone's color.



ISRAEL AND JORDAN

Israel and Jordan are part of an area often known as the Holy Land, and many sites are important to different faiths. There are vast areas of open desert, but also fertile farming land, where crops such as citrus fruit, grapes, dates, nuts, and olives are grown.

IRAN, IRAQ, AND SAUDI ARABIA

Iran, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia all contain large areas of hot, sandy desert, with huge reserves of oil and natural gas. Some of the world's earliest civilizations flourished in these lands, and all three countries have many ancient ruins and other treasures.



Isfahan tile



Ur treasure

Ur was an important ancient city in what is now Iraq. Many treasures were found in tombs there. These include intricate gold jewelry and a lyre (type of harp) decorated with a golden bull's head.

Gold wreath



Bull's head lyre

Fine foods

This region is noted for producing some of the world's most prized delicacies. These include high-quality dates, the delicate spice saffron, and the best and most expensive caviar (fish eggs).



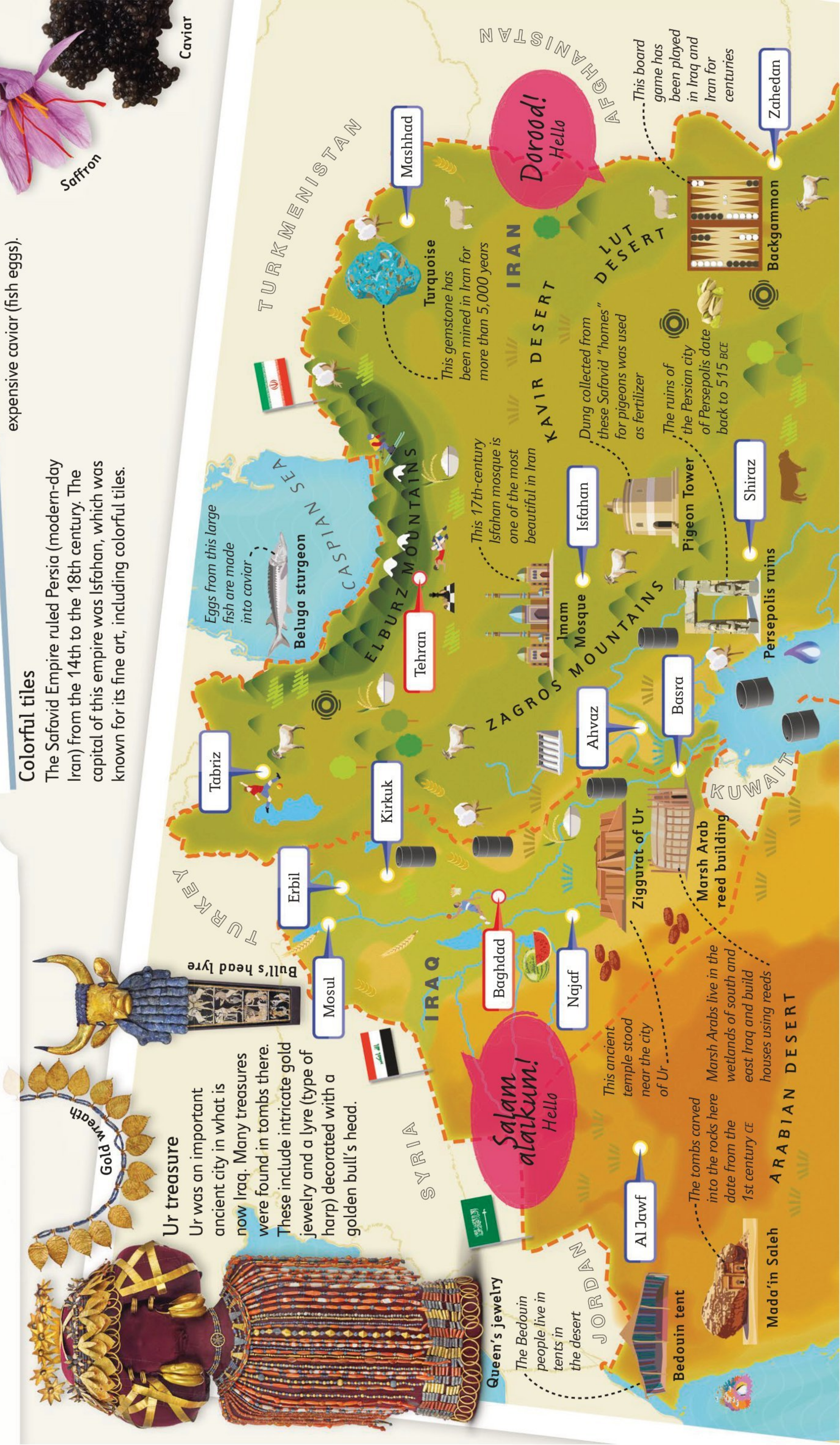
Dates

Saffron

Caviar

Colorful tiles

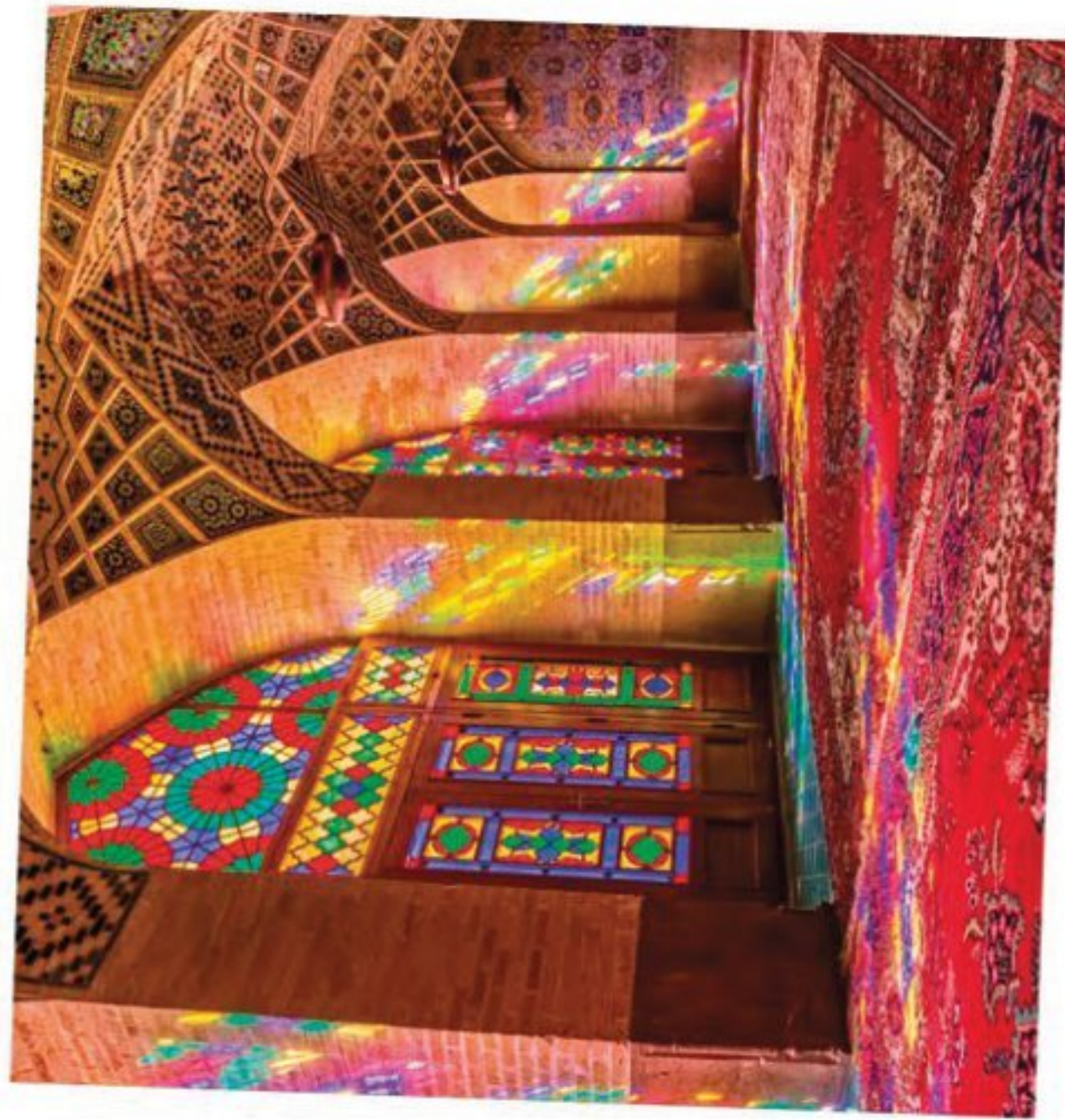
The Safavid Empire ruled Persia (modern-day Iran) from the 14th to the 18th century. The capital of this empire was Isfahan, which was known for its fine art, including colorful tiles.





Stained glass

Stained glass is widely used in mosques. The windows of the Nasir al-Mulk Mosque in Shiraz, Iran are some of the most colorful. As sunlight streams through them, the building is flooded with dazzling colors.



Nasir al-Mulk Mosque

Veiled chameleon

This chameleon is native to the southern part of Saudi Arabia, living in trees and bushes in the mountains and valleys. It catches insects by shooting out its long, sticky tongue.



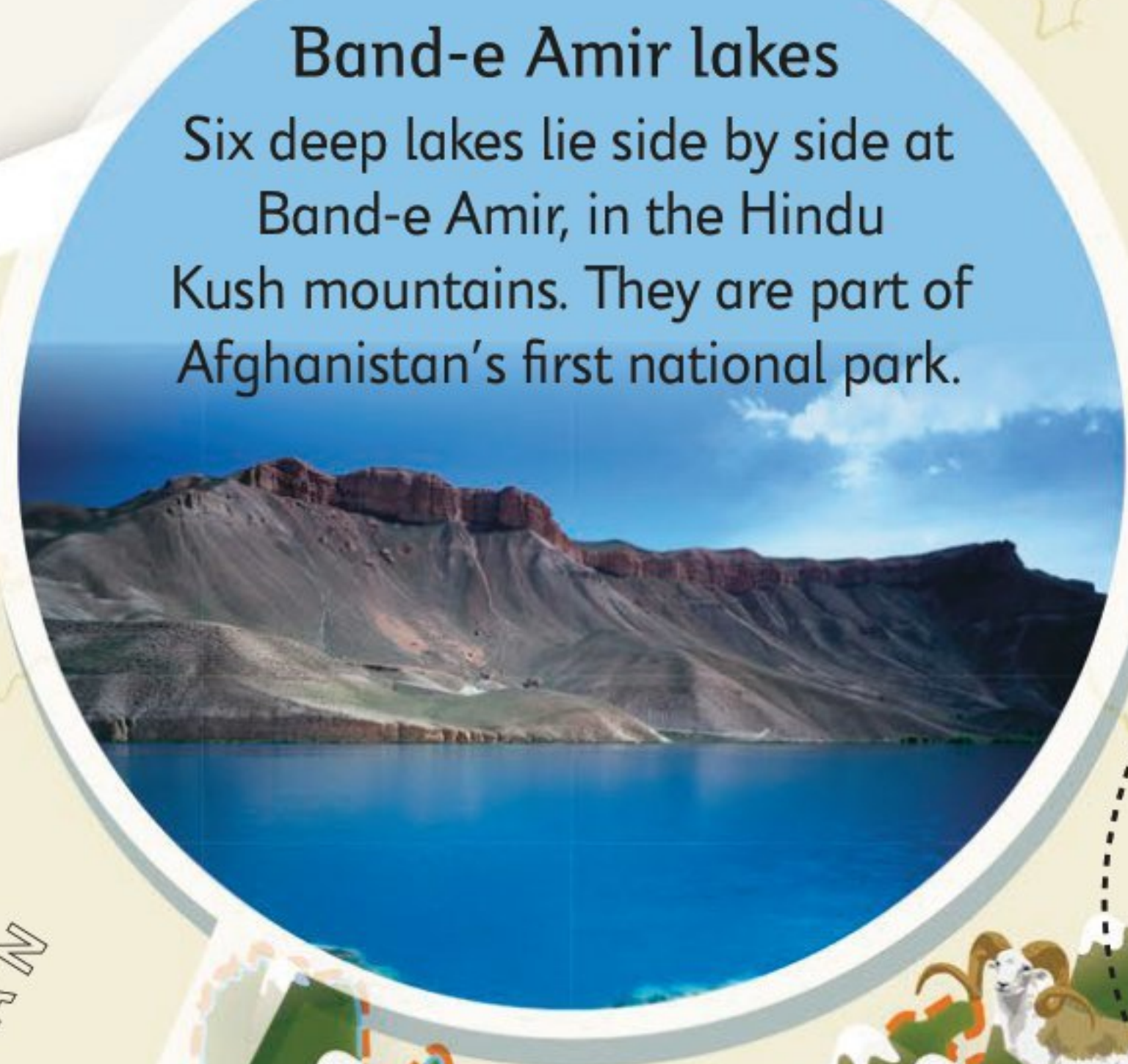
Mecca

Mecca is the birthplace of the prophet Muhammad and is the holiest city in the Muslim world. Muslims travel here every year to pray at the sacred Kaaba shrine.



AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan lies between Central Asia and China. In ancient times, Chinese silk and other goods were traded along the Silk Road that passed through the Hindu Kush mountains. Temperatures in the deserts and mountains of Afghanistan vary from very hot in summer to freezing cold in winter.



Band-e Amir lakes

Six deep lakes lie side by side at Band-e Amir, in the Hindu Kush mountains. They are part of Afghanistan's first national park.



These unusual sheep have huge, spiraling horns, which can be up to 27 in (70 cm) long

Marco Polo sheep

This highly prized gemstone has been mined in Afghanistan for over 5,000 years

Lapis lazuli

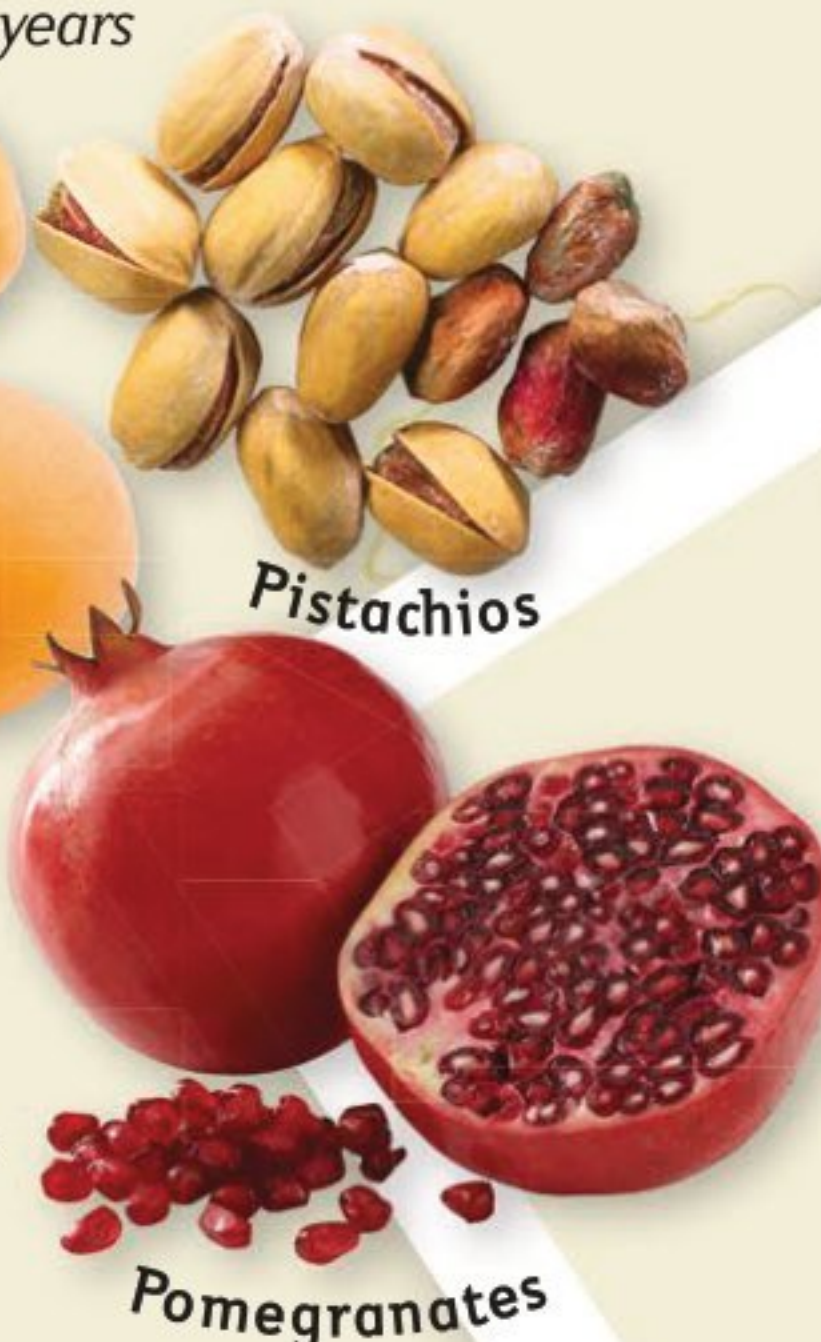
Jalalabad

Khyber Pass

This mountain pass links Afghanistan with Pakistan

Fruit and nuts

Afghanistan's farms produce some of the tastiest nuts and fruit in the world. These include large quantities of pistachio nuts, apricots, and pomegranates.



KEY

PRODUCE

- Wheat
- Corn
- Barley
- Rice
- Potatoes
- Raisins

- Apricots
- Cotton
- Sheep
- Goats
- Pomegranates

ACTIVITIES

- Basketball
- Soccer
- Cricket

NATURAL FEATURES

- Sapphires
- Earthquakes



Citadel of Herat

This huge castle has 18 towers and 6½-ft (2-m) thick brick walls. It stands on the site of a fort built by Alexander the Great in 330 BCE.

Ancient Buddhist statues and manuscripts were discovered in these caves

Bamiyan

Bamiyan caves

Kabul

Herat

Pistachio tree

Jama Masjid

This large mosque in Herat is covered in beautiful glazed tiles

Afghan rug

Afghan rugs are prized all over the world



Bactrian gold

This hoard of gold artifacts was discovered in ancient burial mounds in northern Afghanistan in 1978. It includes jewelry, coins, and figures.

Kandahar

REGISTAN DESERT

Embroidered hat

Traditional clothes in Afghanistan have colorful, detailed embroidery, such as on this child's hat.



SCALE



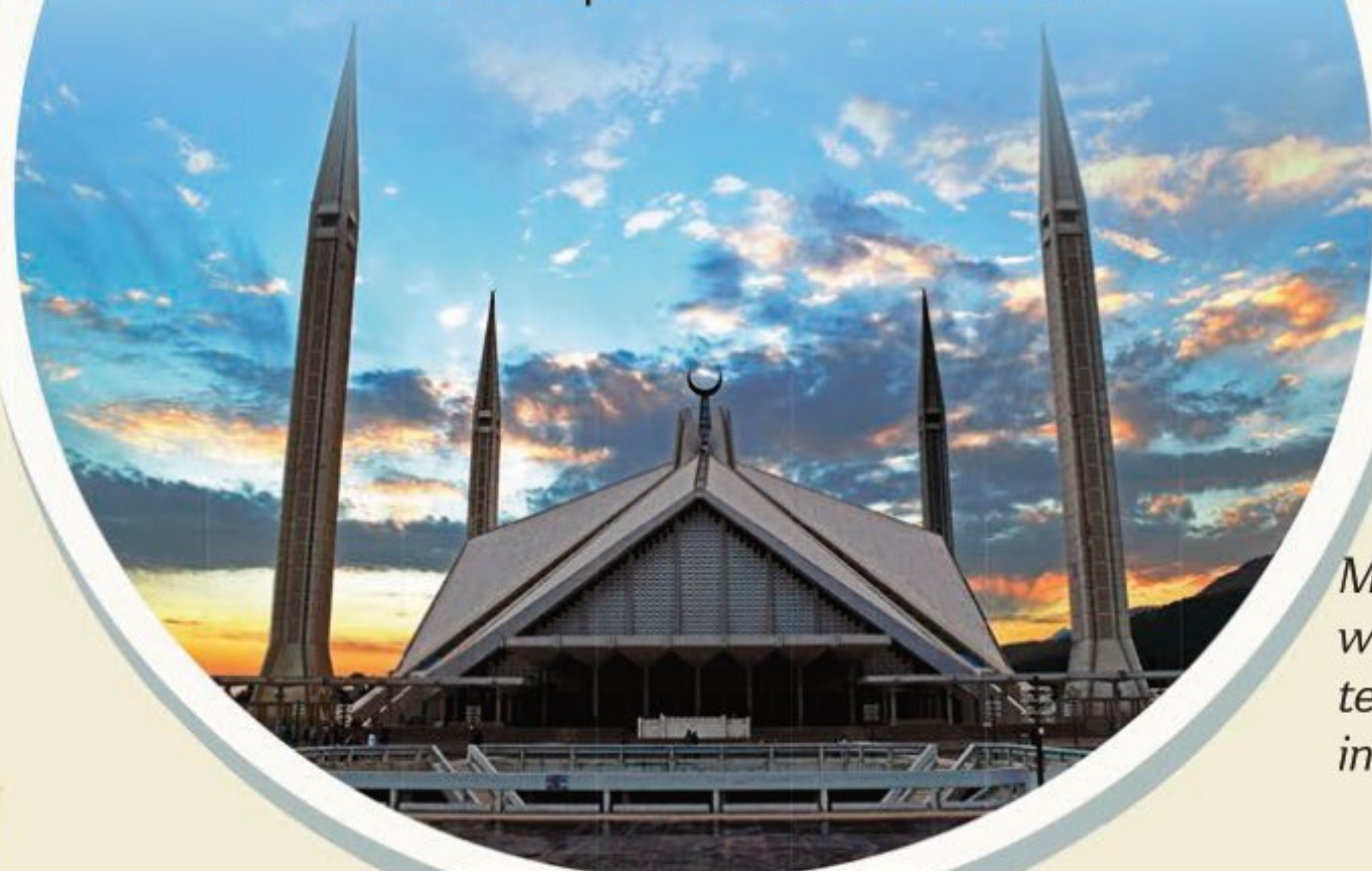
Salaam!
Hello

PAKISTAN

Pakistan has the world's sixth largest population. Many people live along the Indus River and its tributaries (streams), which flow down through the middle of the country, providing water to irrigate the fertile farmland along the riverbanks. Farming is Pakistan's main source of income.

Faisal Mosque

This modern mosque is in the capital, Islamabad. It is Pakistan's largest mosque and its distinctive design is in the shape of a Bedouin tent.



SCALE

0 100 miles
0 100 kilometers



KEY

PRODUCE

- Wheat
- Sugar cane
- Rice
- Cotton
- Mangoes
- Oranges
- Sheep
- Goats
- Buffalo
- Cattle

NATURAL FEATURES

- Coal
- Salt
- Green turtles
- Earthquakes

ACTIVITIES

- Cricket
- Mountain climbing
- Hiking
- Field hockey

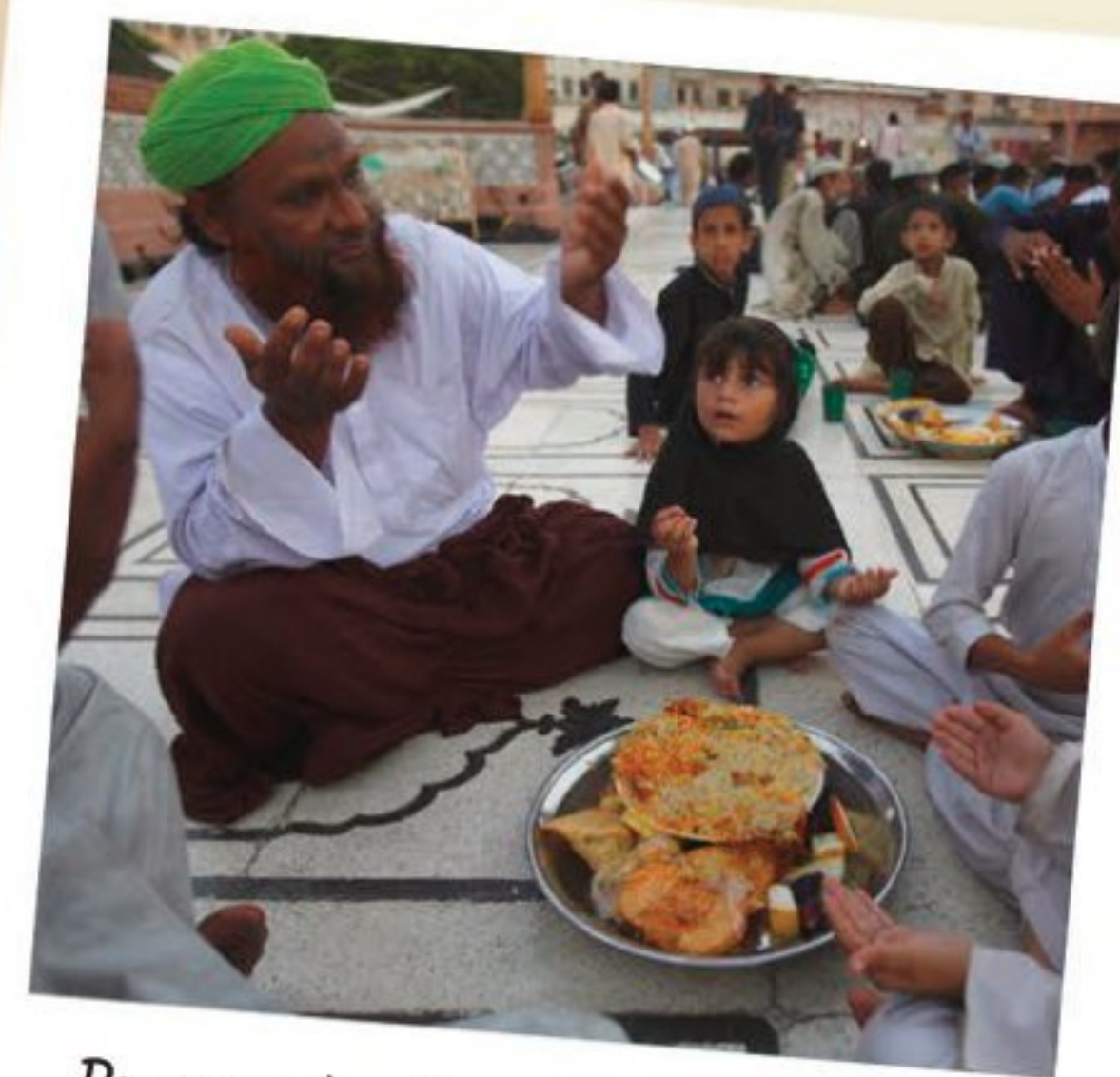


Snow leopards live in Pakistan's northern mountains, which include K2, the world's second highest mountain

Markhor

This large, mountain goat is the national animal of Pakistan. Males are prized for their long, corkscrewlike horns.

Salaam!
Hello



Prayer before breaking fast

Ramadan

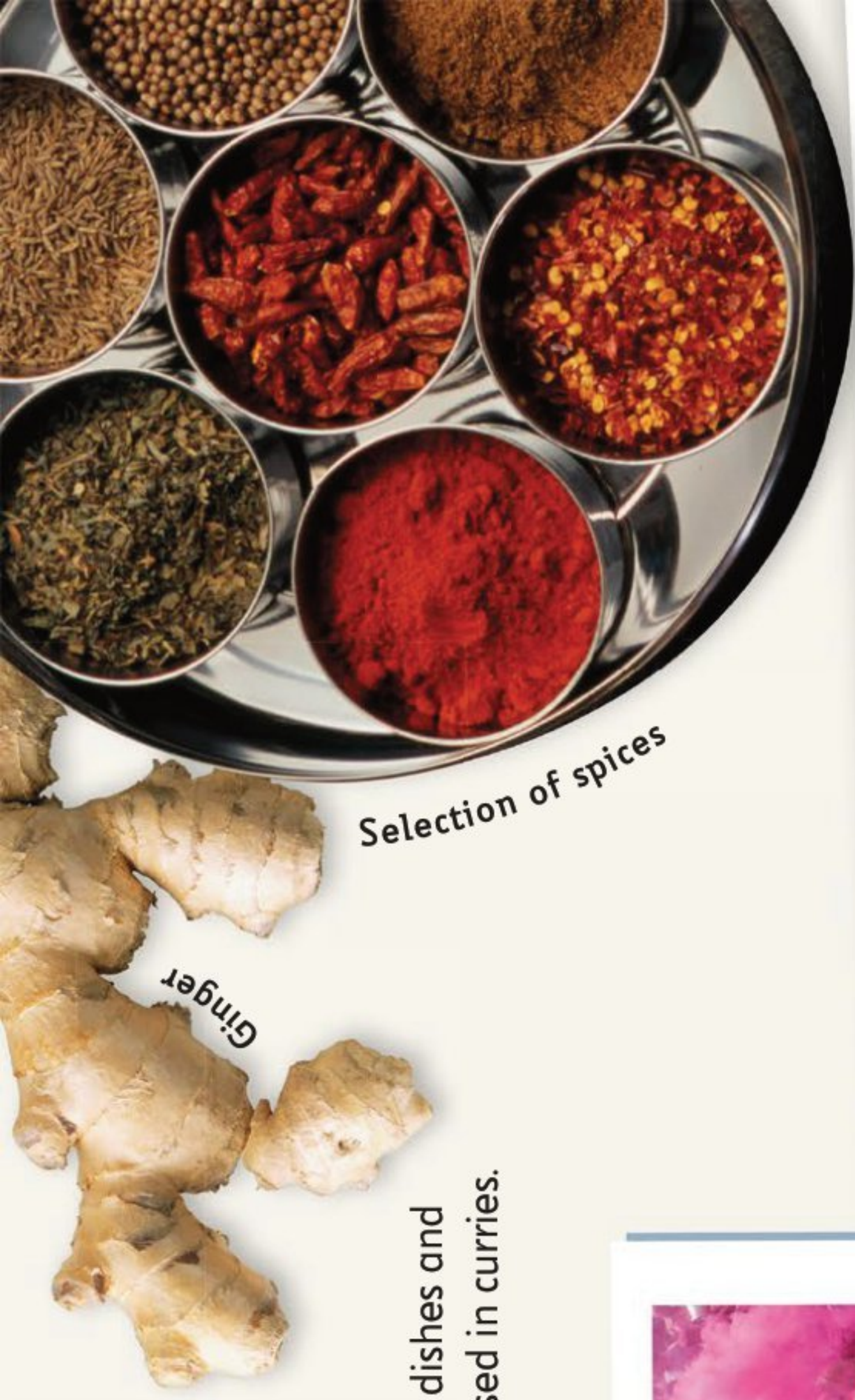
Muslims fast during the holy month of Ramadan. Meals are only served before dawn and after sunset, when special prayers are said.

INDIA AND SRI LANKA

India is a colorful and crowded country. It stretches from the snowy Himalayan mountains to the warm waters of the Indian Ocean. Sri Lanka is a tropical island that is known for its tea plantations.

Land of spices

Rich and fragrant spices are grown in India and Sri Lanka. The ginger root adds warmth to sweet and savory dishes and several different spices are used in curries.



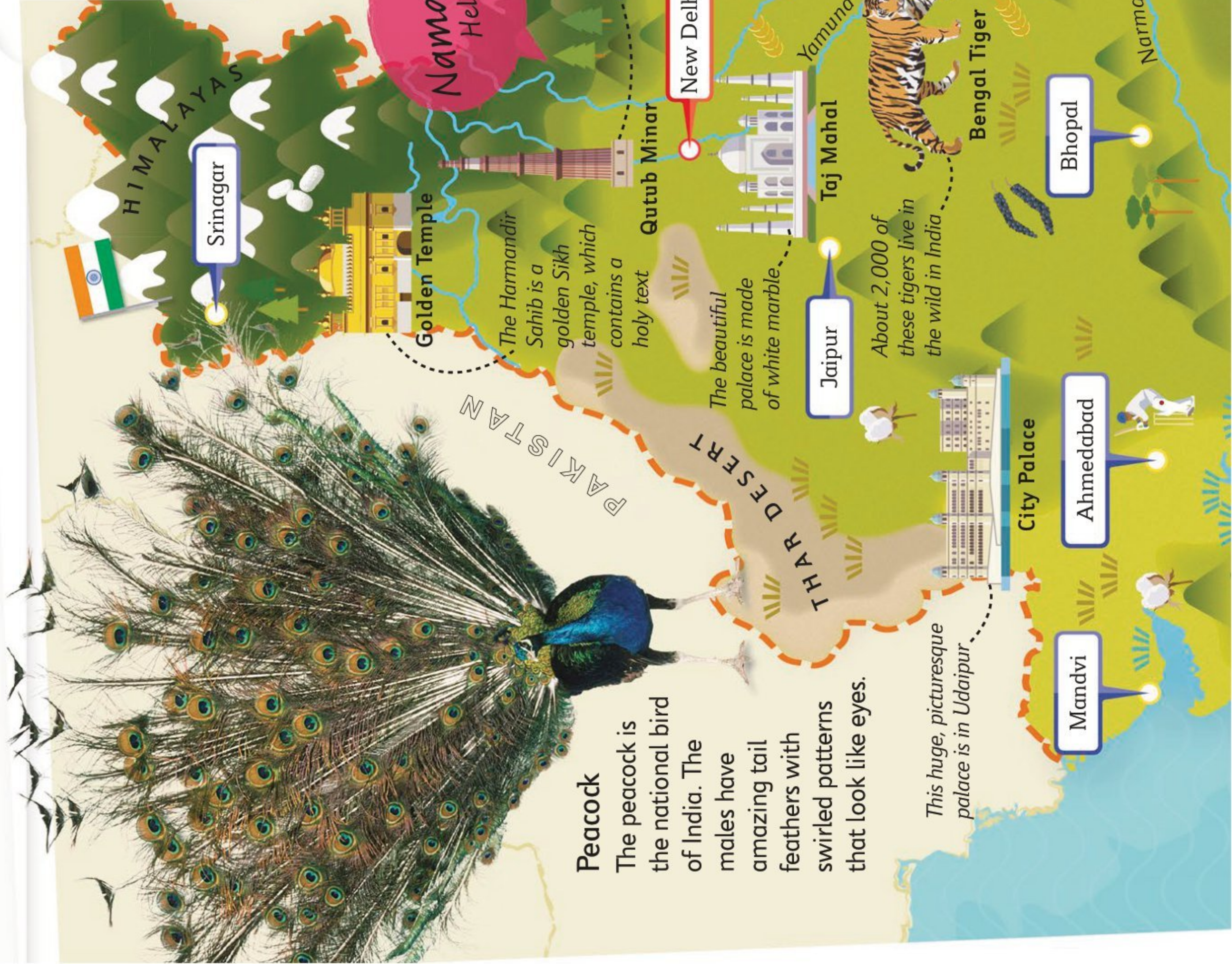
Selection of spices



Throwing colored paint

Holi Festival

The Hindu spring festival celebrates color and love. People throw paint powder and get covered in bright colors.



Peacock

The peacock is the national bird of India. The males have amazing tail feathers with swirled patterns that look like eyes.

Namastē!
Hello

PAKISTAN

HIMALAYAS

THAR DESERT

CHINA

INDIA

NEPAL

BHUTAN

BANGLADESH

MYANMAR (BURMA)

Cricket

Cricket is the most popular sport in India. It is played across the country on grass cricket grounds like this one in the city of Mumbai.



Cricketers in Mumbai

India has passed special laws to protect this rare rhino

Indian rhinoceros

Kolkata's largest cricket ground is a venue for international matches

Kolkata

The Varanasi ghats are stone steps that lead down to the Ganges River and are used in bathing and religious ceremonies

Varanasi

This holy Buddhist site is built entirely from brick

Mahabodhi Temple

Eden Gardens

Kolkata

Varanasi

Bengal Tiger

Bhopal

Ahmedabad

Mandvi

City Palace

This huge, picturesque palace is in Udaipur

About 2,000 of these tigers live in the wild in India

Jaipur

Taj Mahal

New Delhi

Qutub Minar

The beautiful palace is made of white marble

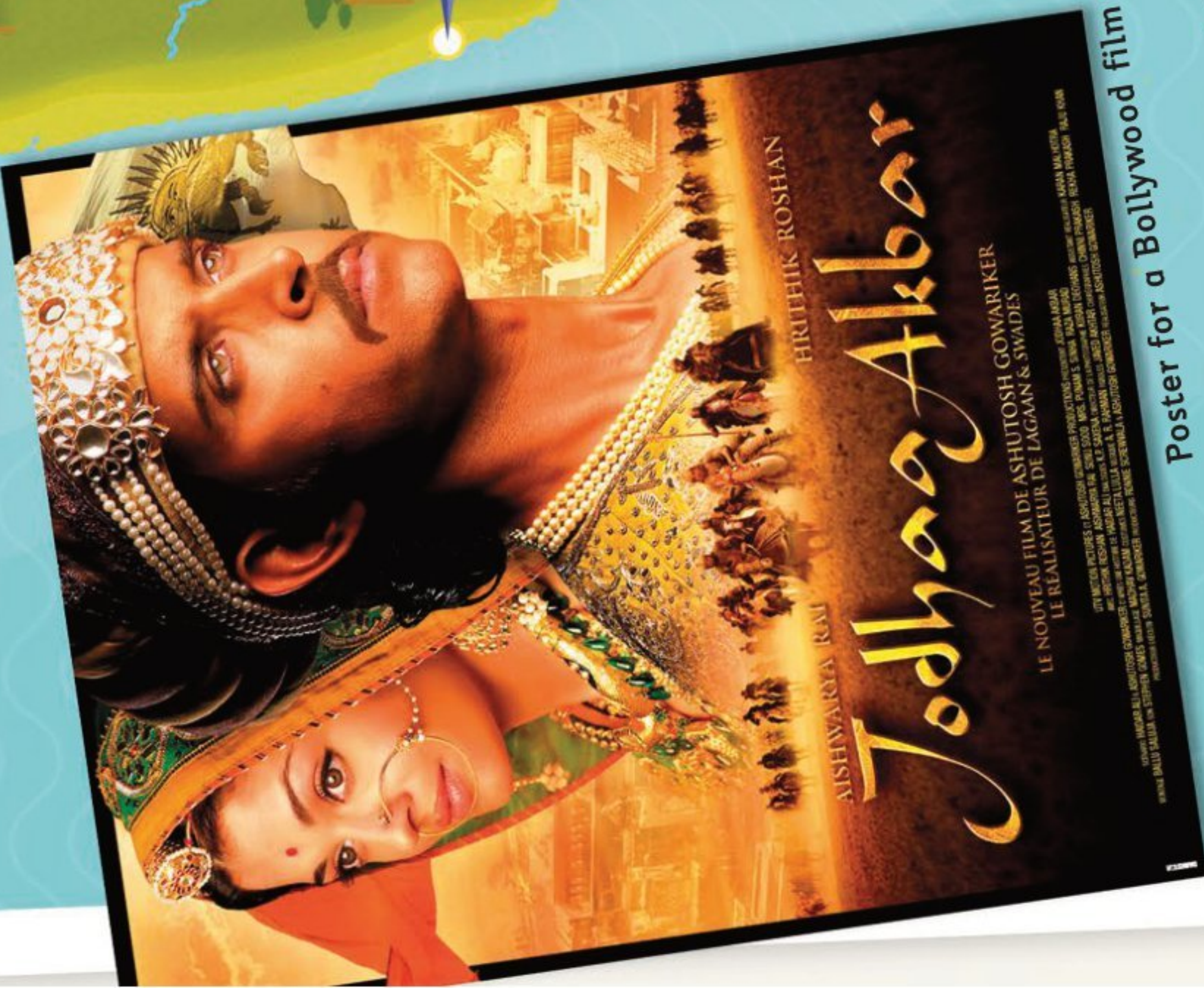
The Harmandir Sahib is a golden Sikh temple, which contains a holy text

Golden Temple

Srinagar

This lion is only found in the Gir Forest region of northwest India.

ARABIAN SEA



Poster for a Bollywood film

Bollywood

Bollywood is one of the world's biggest film industries. It is based in Mumbai, India, and is popular at home and internationally. The films feature songs, dancing, romance, and adventure. They are shot in bright, bold colors, like the posters that advertise them.

SCALE



Cave temple

The Golden Temple of Dambulla is a sacred site that includes many golden Buddha statues and a monastery carved into the rock.



Kathakali performers

Kathakali

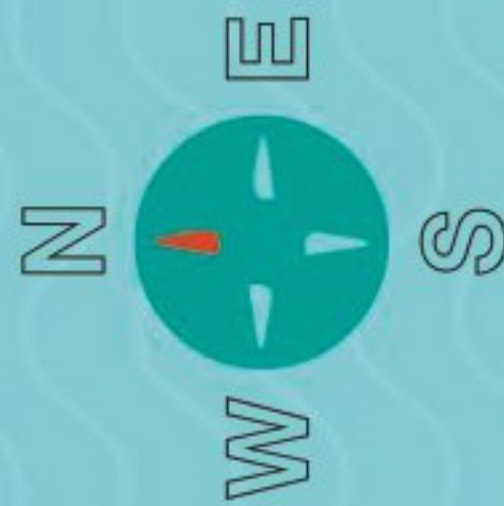
In Kerala state, South India, Kathakali performers wear face paint and costumes and perform dances that act out traditional stories.

Andaman Islands

Nicobar Islands

KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Rice	Coal
Cotton	Silk
Tea	Technology
Mangoes	Nuclear power
Black pepper	Fishing
Wheat	
ACTIVITIES	NATURAL FEATURES
Cricket	Green turtles
Field hockey	



Kuhomadul
Hello

Gemstones

Precious gemstones are mined in Sri Lanka, including unique blue sapphires. The island has some of the richest gem fields in the world.

Namastē!
Hello

Gurung tribesmen collect honey from wild bees nesting in cliffs



Momos

These steamed dumplings are very popular in Nepal. Traditionally, they are filled with ground meat, but sometimes vegetables are used. They are served with a fiery chili sauce.



NEPAL AND BANGLADESH

Nepal and Bangladesh are two south Asian countries with very different landscapes. The high Himalayan mountains run through Nepal, while much of Bangladesh is only just above sea level, and large areas are flooded during the heavy monsoon rains.

Mount Everest

The world's highest mountain sits on Nepal's border with China. It is 29,029 ft (8,848 m) high. Mountaineers first reached Everest's peak in 1953.



KEY

PRODUCE

- Mangoes
- Shellfish
- Jute
- Coconuts
- Rice
- Tea

INDUSTRY

- Textiles
- Gas
- Hydroelectric power

ACTIVITIES

- Climbing
- Hiking

NATURAL FEATURES

- Earthquakes



Sherpas

Most Sherpa people live in east Nepal, near Mount Everest. Many are expert climbers, work as mountain guides, and can climb to great heights without becoming tired and out of breath.

Kathmandu

Pashupatinath Temple

Lalitpur

Janakpur

Elephant polo

Biratnagar

Players ride elephants, not horses, in this version of polo

Rhododendrons

Forests of blooming rhododendrons can be seen in the Himalayas. It is Nepal's national flower

These ruins of a Buddhist monastery form one of the most important historical sites in Bangladesh

Somapura Mahavira

Rajshahi

Khulna

Jamdani muslin

Jamdani is a fine muslin cloth that is produced in the Dhaka area of Bangladesh. It is dyed bright colors and embroidered, then used for saris.

Sylhet

Dhaka

Shat Gombuj Mosque

Chittagong

Saltwater crocodile

These massive crocodiles live in the Bay of Bengal

BAY OF BENGAL

SCALE



Embroidering a sari

Hyālō!
Hello

MYANMAR
(BURMA)

Fire balloons
The Festival of Lights is held every year in Myanmar to mark the end of the rainy season in November. Hot-air balloons, called fire balloons, are released into the sky. They are lit by candles and come in various fun shapes.



Rooster fire balloon

Maingalarpar!
Hello

These rare, round-headed dolphins hunt for fish in the Irrawaddy River.

Irrawaddy dolphin

Inle Lake

This lake in the mountains is home to some unique species of fish and snails. People live in houses raised on stilts around the edge of the lake.

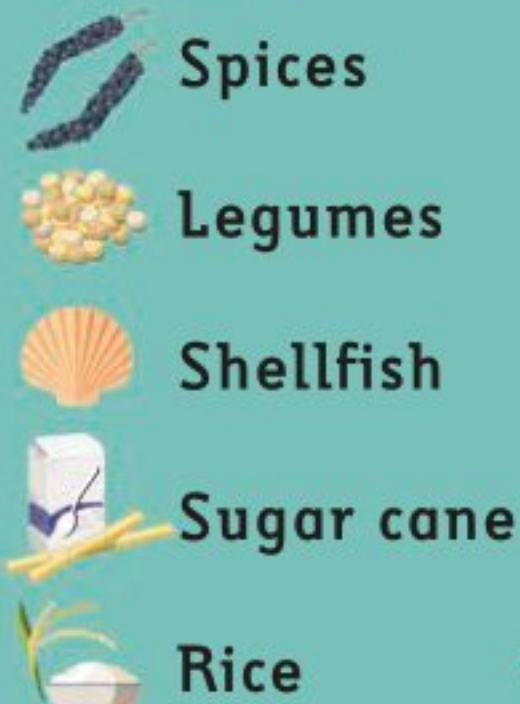


SCALE



KEY

PRODUCE



INDUSTRY



Mandalay

Taunggyi

Nay Pyi Daw

Shwethalyaung Buddha

Shwedagon Paya

Yangon

Mawlamyaing

This tall, golden pagoda in Yangon is the most sacred Buddhist site in Myanmar.

MYANMAR

Myanmar (formerly Burma) is a long, thin country that follows the Irrawaddy River and the coast of the Bay of Bengal. In the hills and forests of Myanmar, there are mines containing precious gemstones, such as jade and rubies. Its forests produce some of the world's finest teak wood, which is very strong and is used in shipbuilding and to make furniture.

Cobalt blue tarantula

This blue-legged spider lives in Myanmar's tropical forests. It uses deadly venom to catch its prey, including mice and frogs.



Chinlone

Chinlone

Chinlone, or cane ball, is a traditional sport in Myanmar. It is not competitive and there are no opposing teams. Players use their heads and knees to show how gracefully they can keep a cane ball in the air.



Shan noodles

This popular dish uses flat rice noodles, which are served in a spicy broth with chicken or pork. It is served topped with mustard greens and chopped peanuts.



CHINA AND MONGOLIA

More than 1 billion people live in China. Most people live in the industrialized east of this vast and ancient land, which was once the home of a great empire. Mongolia has far fewer people and much of the country is desert or grassland, called steppe.



Baby dinosaur fossils

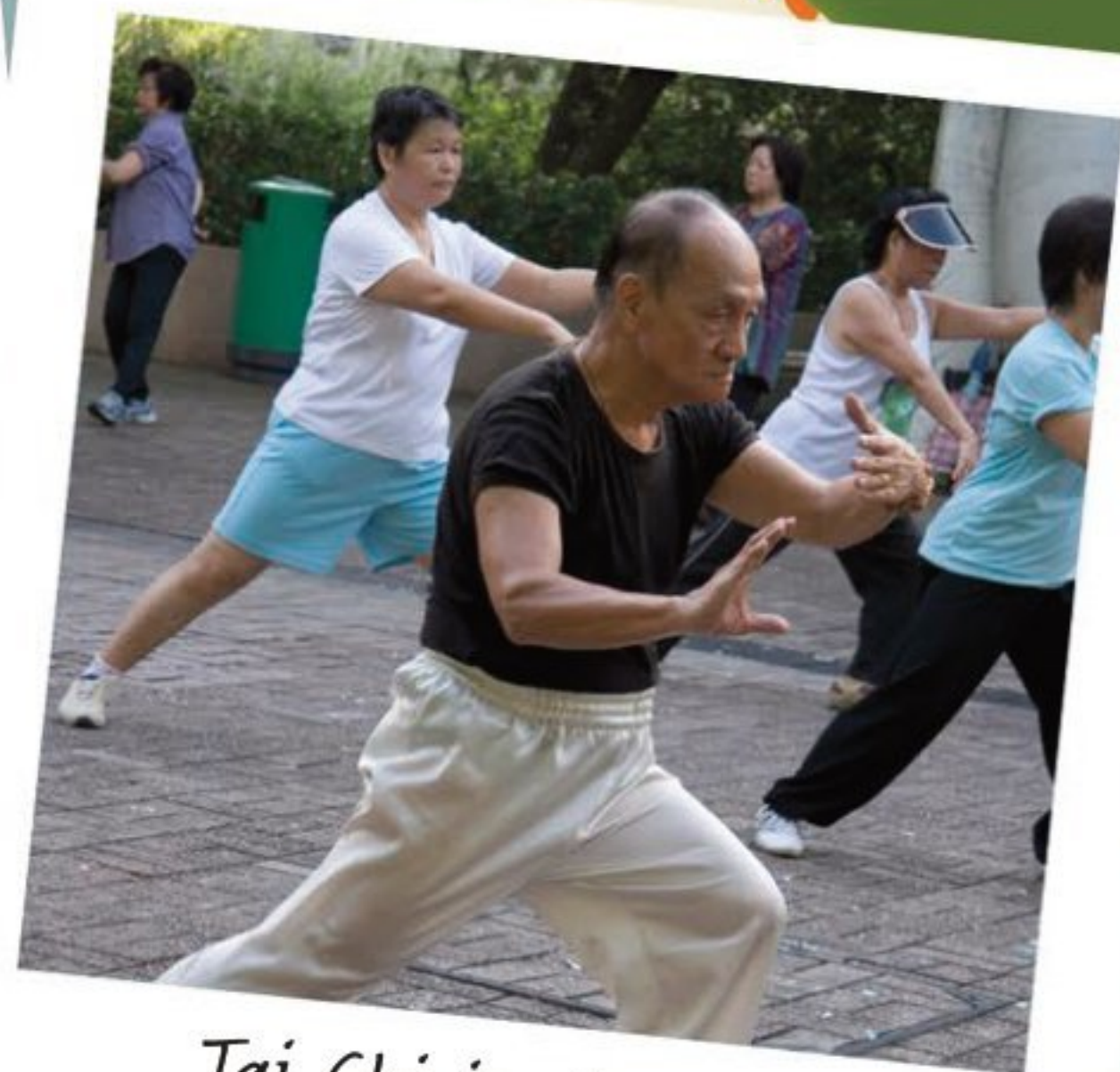
Dinosaurs in the Gobi
Dinosaurs lived in Mongolia and China millions of years ago. Many well preserved dinosaur fossils have been found in the Gobi desert.



Tibetan monk

Buddhism

Buddhism is a religion and a philosophy based on the teachings of the Buddha. In Tibet, Buddhist monks wear red robes.



Tai Chi in the park

Tai Chi

This popular group exercise involves a series of slow, controlled movements. People practice Tai Chi for defensive training and to keep healthy.

Giant panda

The giant panda lives in the mountainous forests of south-central China. It feeds on bamboo and is one of the rarest animals in the world.



Chinese New Year

This is China's most important festival, when people celebrate the coming of spring. People hold parades led by a huge dancing dragon, a symbol of China that is believed to bring good luck.



Mongolian horses

There are more horses in Mongolia than people. The Mongol horse is small, but very strong and sturdy. Many children learn to ride by the age of three.

Porcelain

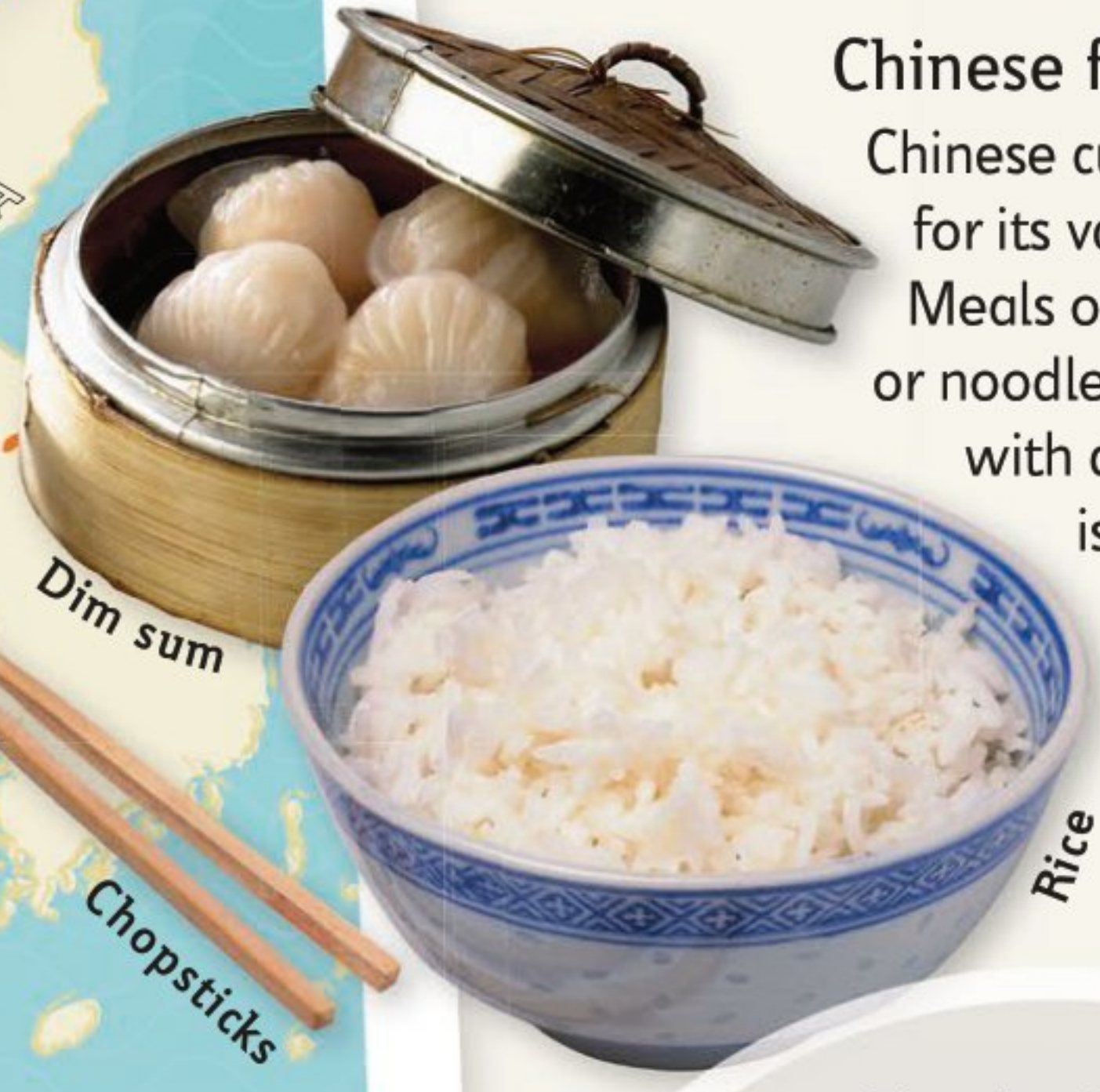
China is famous for its high-quality, hardwearing pottery, called porcelain, which is made from kaolin, also known as China Clay.

KEY

PRODUCE	
Sheep	Rice
Goats	Cotton
Tea	Millet
INDUSTRY	
Coal	Copper
Iron	Tin
Steel	Gold
Lead	Nuclear power
Fishing	Manufacturing

Chinese food

Chinese cuisine is known for its variety of flavors. Meals often include rice or noodles and are eaten with chopsticks. Dim sum is a traditional Chinese food that consists of small bite-sized portions.



Taroko Gorge

The Leehow River carved through marble rock near Taiwan's east coast, creating this gorge, which is also called Marble Gorge.



Hong Kong

This region of China has a deep natural harbor and a dynamic skyline filled with tall skyscrapers. It is one of the most crowded areas in the world.

KOREA

Korea is a long peninsula that is divided into two countries: North Korea and South Korea, which are very different from each other. North Korea is mountainous and rural. Its society is ordered and closed off from the world. South Korea is more modern and has a thriving electronics industry.



Chongjin

Sacred mountain

Mount Paektu is Korea's highest mountain and is sacred to the Korean people. It is also an active volcano and has a large lake at the top.

Annyeonghi gaseyo!
Good-bye

This animal fattens up for the cold Korean winter by eating birds, frogs, and fruit

Raccoon dog

Kumsusan

Palace of the Sun

This palace in Pyongyang is a mausoleum (burial chamber) that contains the body of Kim Il-sung, the founding president of North Korea.

Hamhung

Myohyang-san

This mountain is a sacred site and major tourist attraction

This 492-ft (150-m) high monument has a metal torch at the top, which is lit up at night

Juche Tower

Pyongyang

Sinuiju

Wonsan

Taedong

Mount Kumgang

This beautiful mountain features in many Korean works of art

The internet

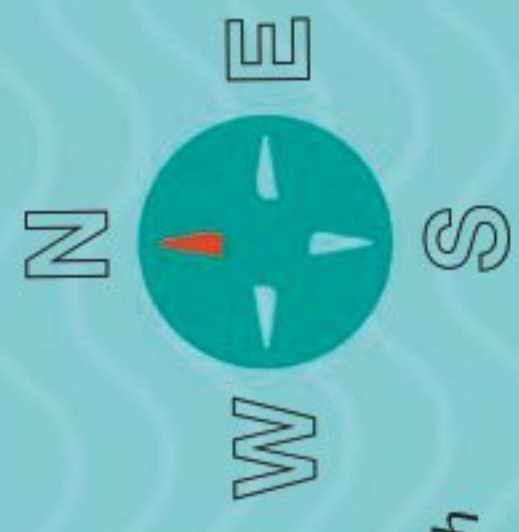
South Korea has the fastest internet connection rate in the world. Everyone uses the internet for work, school, and play. Many Korean teenagers enjoy playing games online.

SCALE



KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Rice	Fishing
Potatoes	Shipbuilding
Soybeans	Steel
Barley	Iron
Cabbages	Coal
Goats	Cars
Pigs	Uranium
Electronics	Copper
ACTIVITIES	ANIMALS
Hiking	Soccer
Hot springs	Scuba diving
Baseball	Green Turtles



People go to watch the sunrise on New Year's Day at this popular tourist site

Jeongdongjin

Beach pods

Modern seaside cabins provide shelter on beaches

A small herd of this rare, wild goat lives in mountains on the border between North and South Korea

Long-tailed goral

This Korean martial art involves lots of fast kicking

Taekwondo

Seoul

Seoul Tower

Incheon

Suwon

Golf

Golf is a popular sport in Korea. South Korea has produced several champion women players

Guinsa

This is the main temple of Korean Buddhism

This is the national flower of South Korea

Rose mallow

SOUTH KOREA

Sejong City

Daejeon

Daegu

Ulsan

Nakdong

Busan

Jinju

Gwangju

This green-tea plantation in the mountain valleys of Boseong is a major tourist attraction

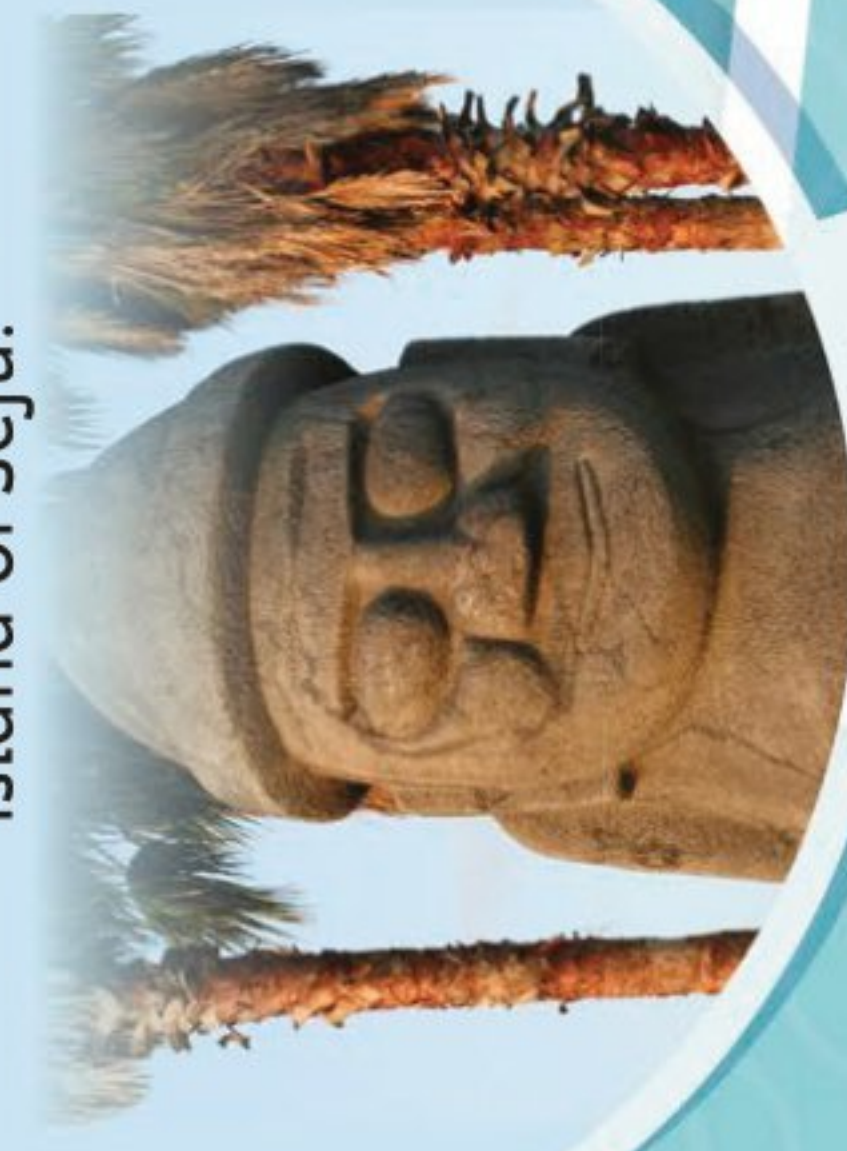
Boseong Daehan Dawon tea plantation

The island of Jeju is south of the Korean mainland

Jeju Island

Stone statues

Distinctive statues known as "dol hareubang," or stone grandfathers, are found on the island of Jeju.



Jinju Lantern Festival



Floating festival

Every October, thousands of paper memorial lanterns, commemorating soldiers who died defending Korea, are lit and floated on the Nam River in Jinju.

Korean food

The classic Korean dish called bibimbap is a hot bowl of rice with vegetables, chili, meat, and egg. Kimchee is a traditional side dish made of seasoned vegetables, including Chinese cabbage.

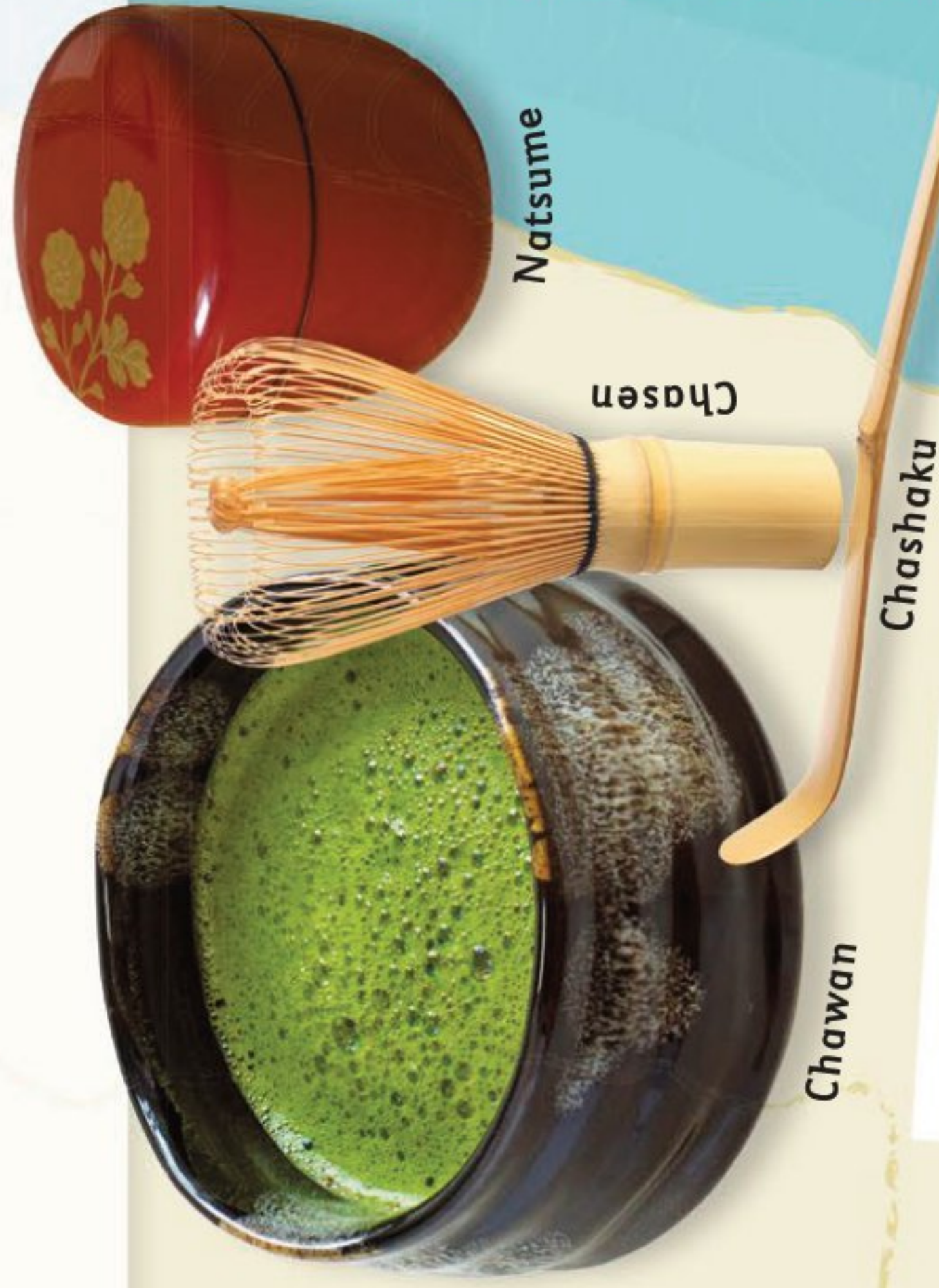


Bibimbap

Kimchee

JAPAN

Japan is a modern, industrial country, but ancient traditions are still an important part of Japanese culture. Most people live in cities on one of the four main islands. Much of the country is mountainous, with many active volcanoes.



Chawan

Chasen

Natsume

Chashaku

Tea ceremony

Matcha green tea is served in a chawan (special tea bowl) in a traditional ceremony that symbolizes friendship and respect between host and guest. Tea is placed in a small container (natsume). It is then added to hot water with a scoop (chashaku) and stirred with a bamboo whisk (chasen).

Martial arts

Kendo is one of the most popular martial arts in Japan. Fighters use bamboo swords and wear protective armor.



Kendo

Comics and cartoons

Cartoon drawings are very popular in Japan. Comics in the distinctive hand-drawn style are called manga, while moving cartoons are known as anime.



Anime



Lantern float

Aomori Nebuta festival
Festivals are held throughout Japan. Every summer, the city of Aomori holds a festival where huge paper lantern floats (nebutas), painted with pictures of mythical beasts and warriors, are carried through the streets.

This rare wetland bird is a symbol of long life in Japan

Red-crowned crane

Kushiro

Two million people visit Sapporo every winter to see the snow and ice sculptures

Snow sculptures

Tomakomai

Hakodate

Earthquakes are common in Japan and this earthquake was the most powerful ever recorded in Japan

Aomori

Hirosaki

Tohoku earthquake

Sendai

Bento

On special occasions, Japanese parents send their children to school with a lunch box, or bento, containing decorated food.



Pandas made from rice balls and pieces of seaweed

Tokyo

The crosswalk near Shibuya Station is one of the busiest places in this crowded city. Often over 1,000 people, coming from all directions, will be on it at the same time.





Bullet trains

High-speed trains
These superfast trains carry people between Japan's major cities at speeds of up to 200 mph (320 km/h). Trains that travel even faster are on their way.



This is one of the world's longest suspension bridges. It links Awaji Island to the mainland.

SOUTH KOREA

Hiroshima

Kitakyūshū

Fukuoka

Pottery is one of Japan's oldest forms of art

Pottery

Mount Aso

Kagoshima

Mount Aso is the largest active volcano in Japan

SCALE



Osumi Islands

Shikoku

Kōchi

Akashi Kaikyo Bridge

Kobe

Kinkaku-ji Temple

Tottori

This popular tourist attraction in Kyōto is also known as the Golden Temple

Kyōto

Ise Shrine

Hamamatsu

Shinto is Japan's state religion and this is one of its most sacred places

Ise

Nagoya

Nagano

Japanese macaque

Saitama

Kawasaki

Yokohama

Tokyo

Tokyo Skytree

Japan's tallest structure is the tower called Tokyo Skytree

Kon'nichiwa!
Hello

Mount Fuji

This active volcano is Japan's tallest mountain at 12,388 ft (3,776 m). Many people believe Mount Fuji to be sacred and more than 200,000 people visit it every year.



KEY

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| PRODUCE | INDUSTRY | NATURAL FEATURES |
| Rice | Fishing | Volcanoes |
| Cars | Cherry blossom | Hot springs |
| Electronics | | |
| ACTIVITIES | | |
| Hiking | | |

SCALE



Okinawa

Naha

Yaeyama Islands

These islands are famous for their beautiful beaches

Ryukyu Islands



Pho

Southeast Asian food

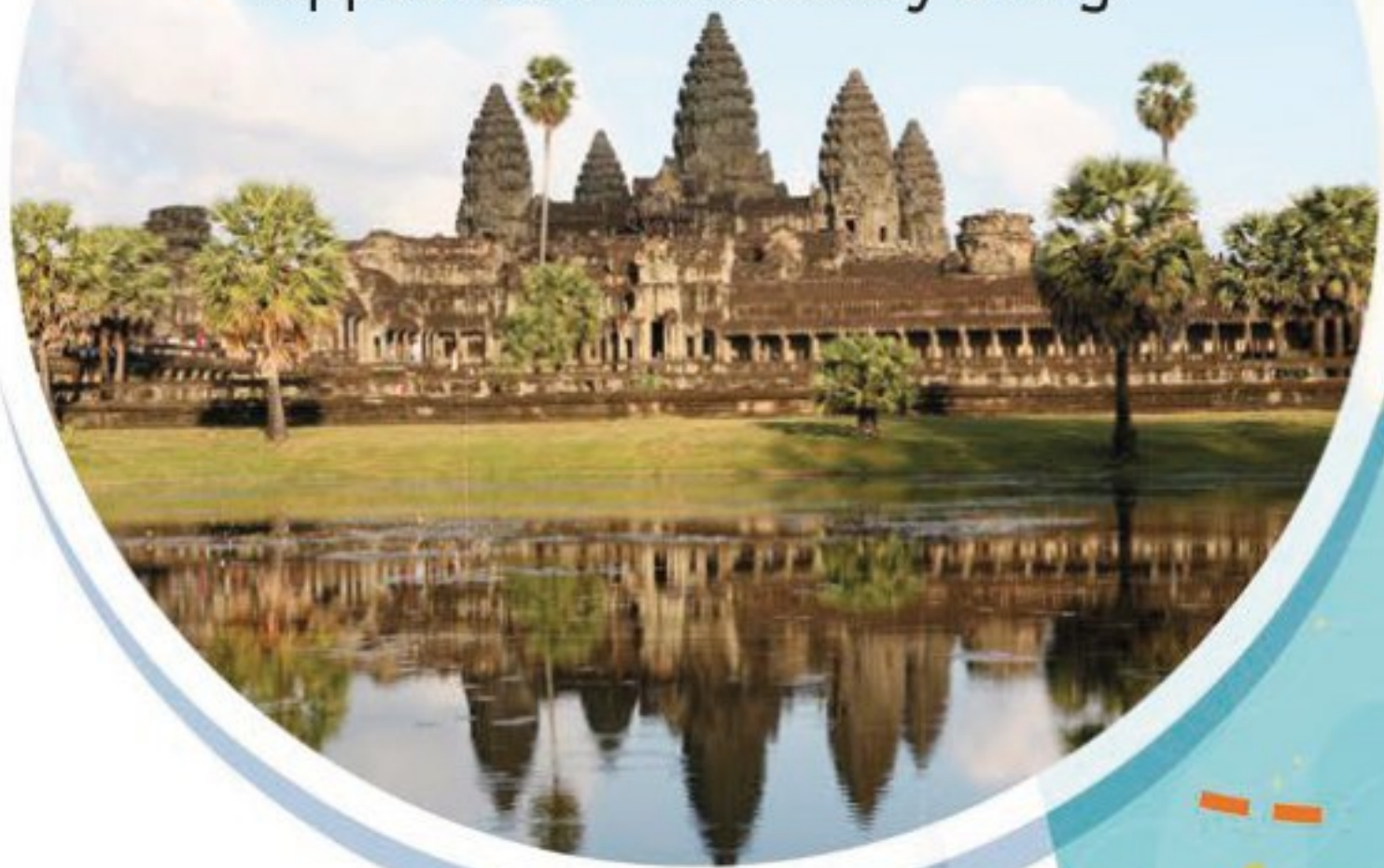
Southeast Asia has many unique dishes. These include Vietnamese pho, a soup with noodles, meat, and vegetables. Crunchy, fried crickets are also a delicacy.



Fried crickets

Angkor Wat

This 12th-century temple is the world's largest religious monument. Today, it is a symbol of Cambodia and appears on the country's flag.



Making a moon kite

Malaysia's kite makers

Malaysia has a tradition of making colorful kites in complex shapes. One of the largest is the wau bulan, or moon kite, which is one of Malaysia's national symbols.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Southeast Asia is a diverse region of many countries and small islands. Much of the mainland is mountainous and is covered with thick forests. The area is the home of fragrant spices and historic temples. The ancient sites and sandy beaches make this region very popular with tourists.



KEY

PRODUCE

- Coconuts
- Coffee
- Rice
- Tea
- Cocoa
- Pigs
- Palm oil
- Corn
- Sugar cane
- Rubber

INDUSTRY

- Rubies and sapphires
- Finance
- Pearls
- Gas
- Oil
- Lumber

ACTIVITIES

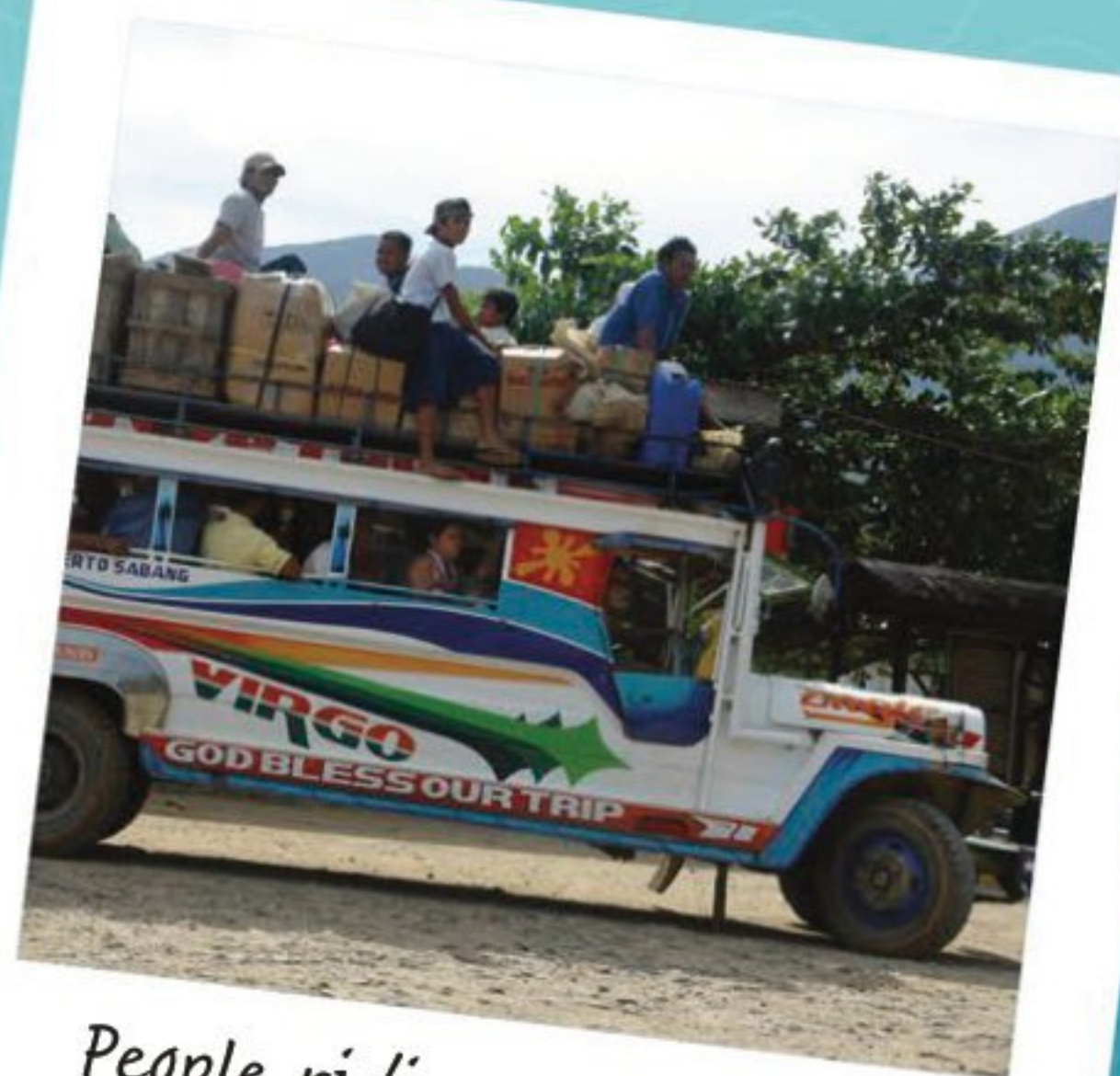
- Surfing
- Scuba diving
- Boxing

NATURAL FEATURES

- Coral reef
- Turtles

Jeepneys

In the Philippines, jeepneys are used as public transportation. These decorated vehicles are based on the design of American Jeeps and seat lots of people close together.



People riding on a Jeepney

Orangutan

These endangered apes only live in the rain forests of Borneo and Sumatra. The name orangutan means "man of the forest."



These beautiful birds live in the rain forests of New Guinea

Jayapura

Greater Bird of Paradise

Nutmeg and cloves

Spicy nutmeg and cloves are harvested in these Indonesian islands in the Molucca Sea

BANDA SEA

Dili

EAST TIMOR

Javanese shadow puppet

Hand-operated puppets are used to perform shows in Java. The figures are skillfully operated and illuminated to cast shadows across the stage.



GREAT SITES

Throughout history, humans have built amazing structures and buildings. These great sites were often built to impress people and as a display of power. In the past, cathedrals and castles were among the largest and most awe-inspiring buildings. Today's spectacular buildings and structures include towering skyscrapers and long bridges.

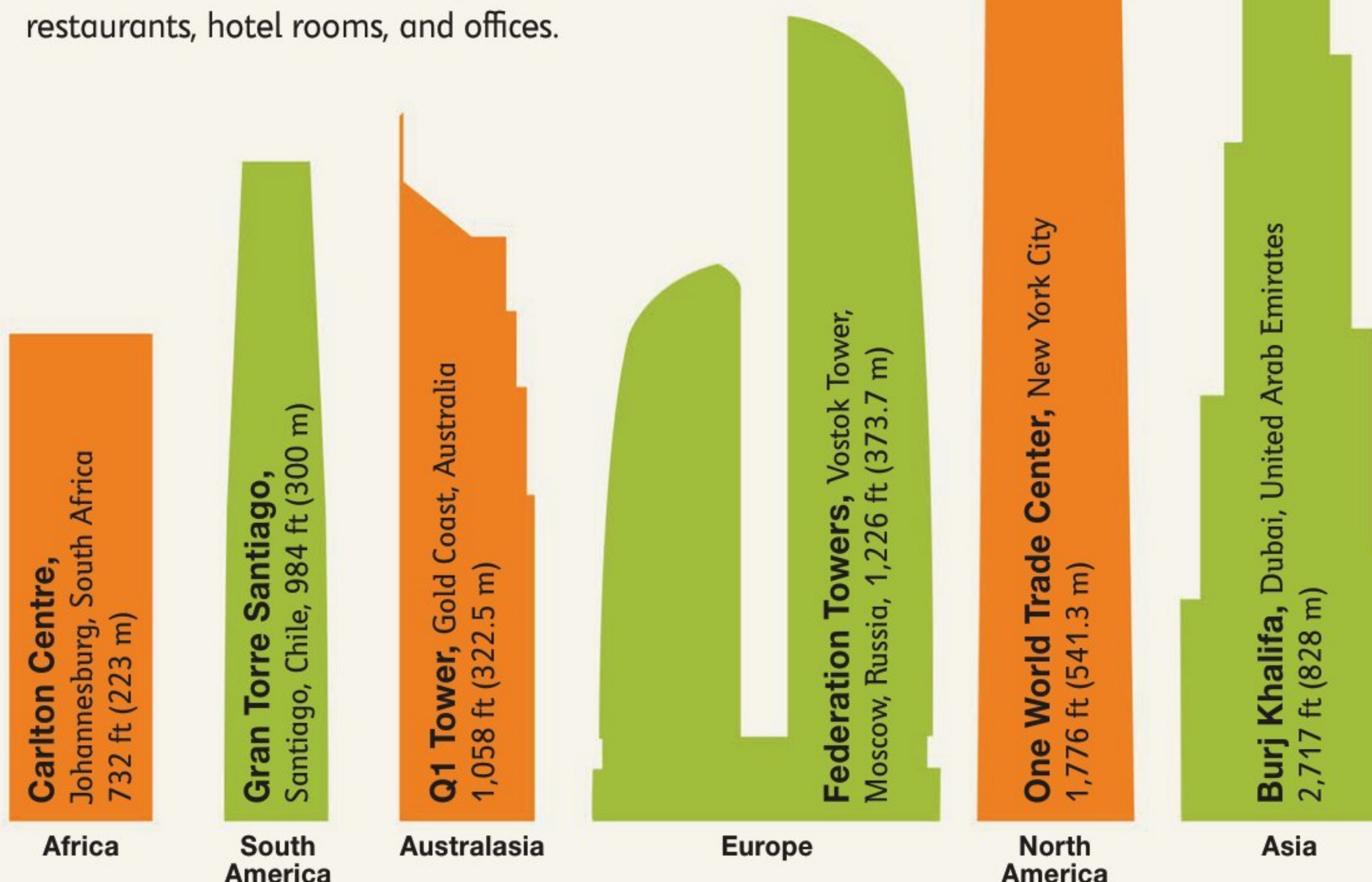
OLDEST BUILDING



The Megalithic Temples of Malta were constructed 5,500 years ago and are among the oldest buildings that still stand today. They were used for religious ceremonies.

Six of the tallest buildings

Tall skyscrapers are built in cities, where land is expensive. Each of these buildings are the tallest on their respective continents. The Burj Khalifa is the tallest building in Asia and the world. It has 163 floors and contains apartments, restaurants, hotel rooms, and offices.



Manchac Swamp Bridge, USA, 22.81 miles (36.71 km)



Lake Pontchartrain Causeway, USA, 23.83 miles (38.35 km)



Bang Na Expressway, Thailand, 34.2 miles (55 km)



Tianjin Grand Bridge, China, 70.6 miles (113.7 km)



Danyang-Kunshan Grand Bridge, China, 102.4 miles (164.8 km)

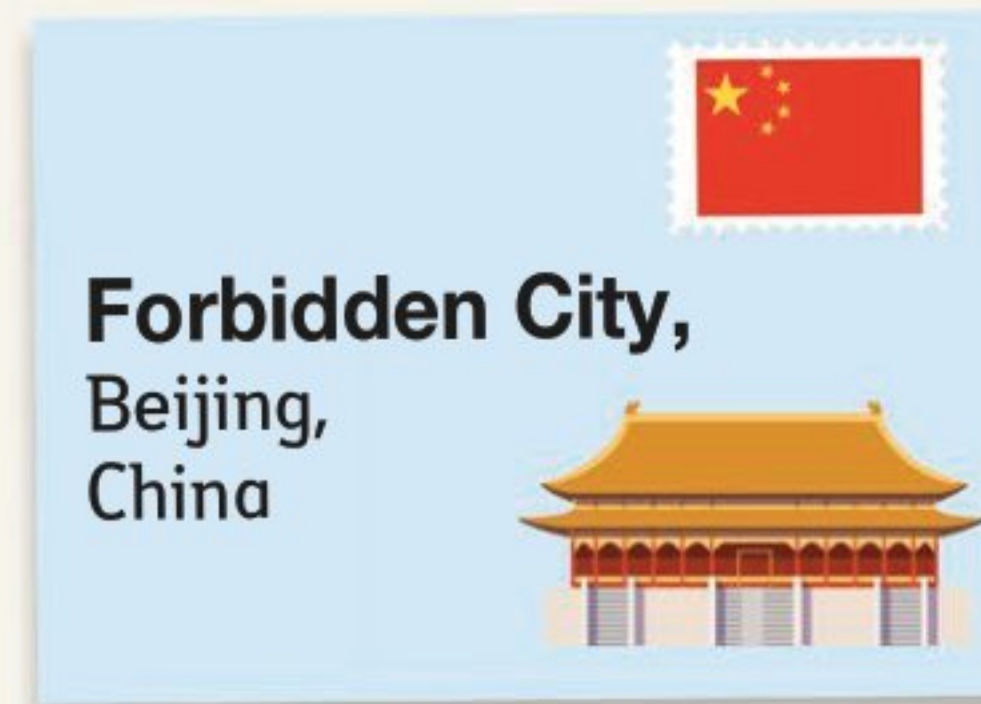
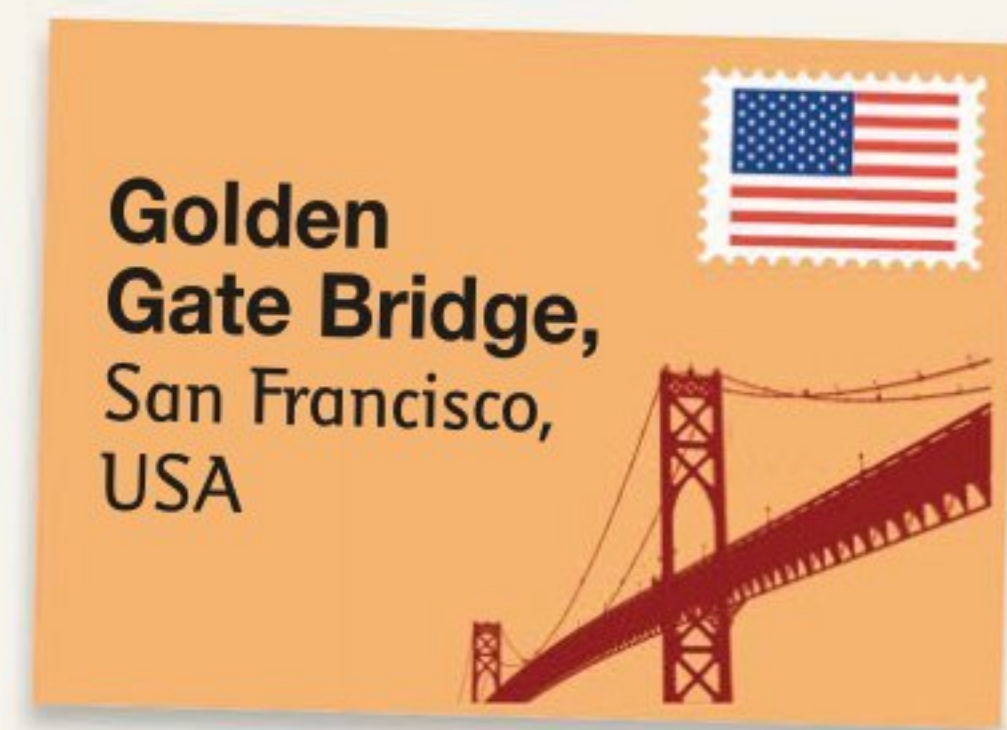
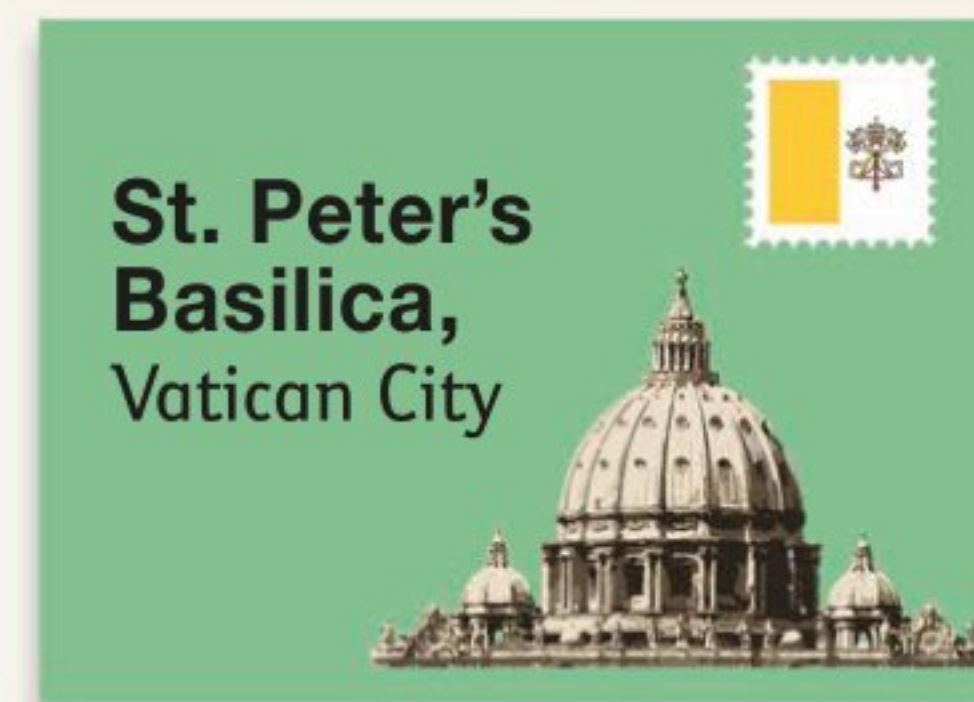
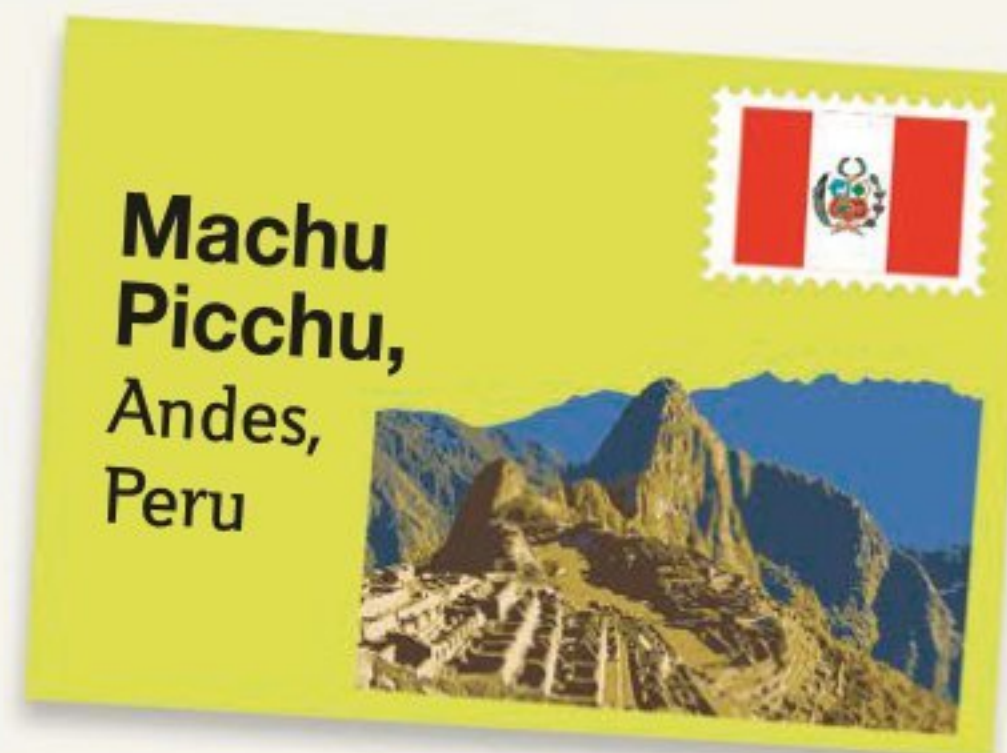
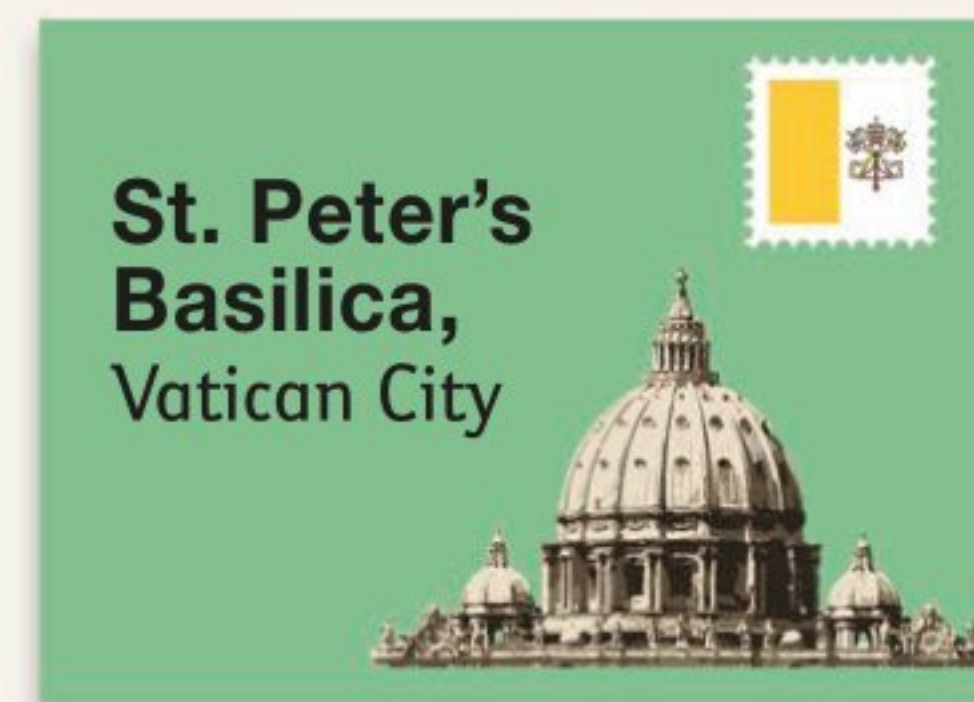
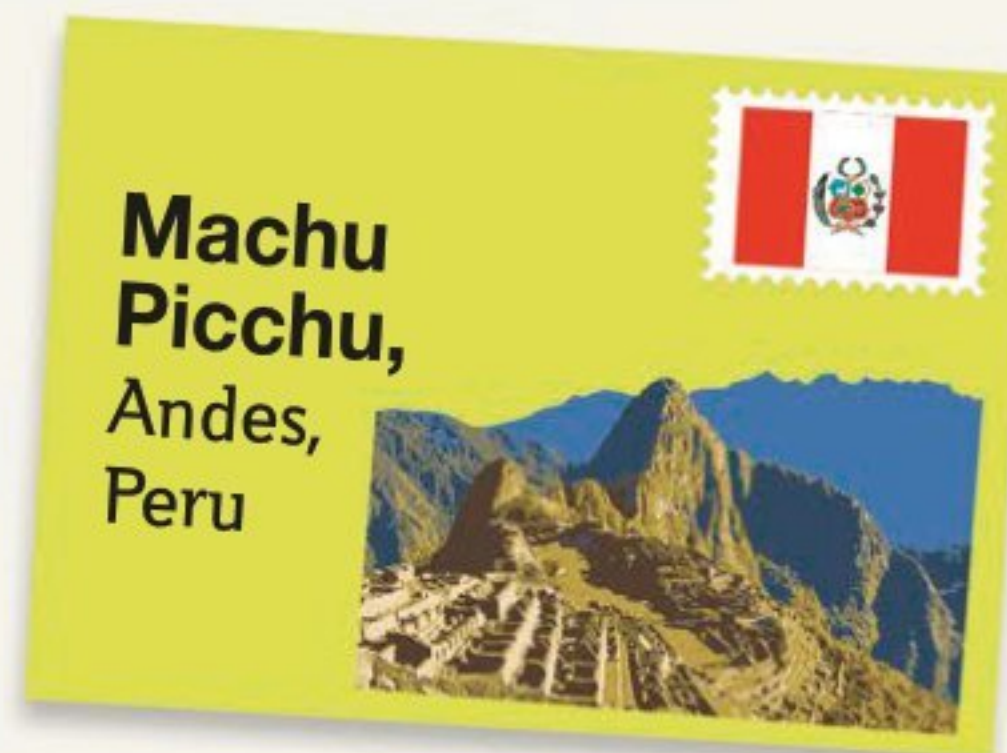
Five of the longest bridges

Long bridges are built across rivers, lakes, harbors, valleys, and even swamps. Bridges are an important way of connecting communities.

The Danyang-Kunshan Grand Bridge carries a high-speed railroad over rice paddies, rivers, and lakes.

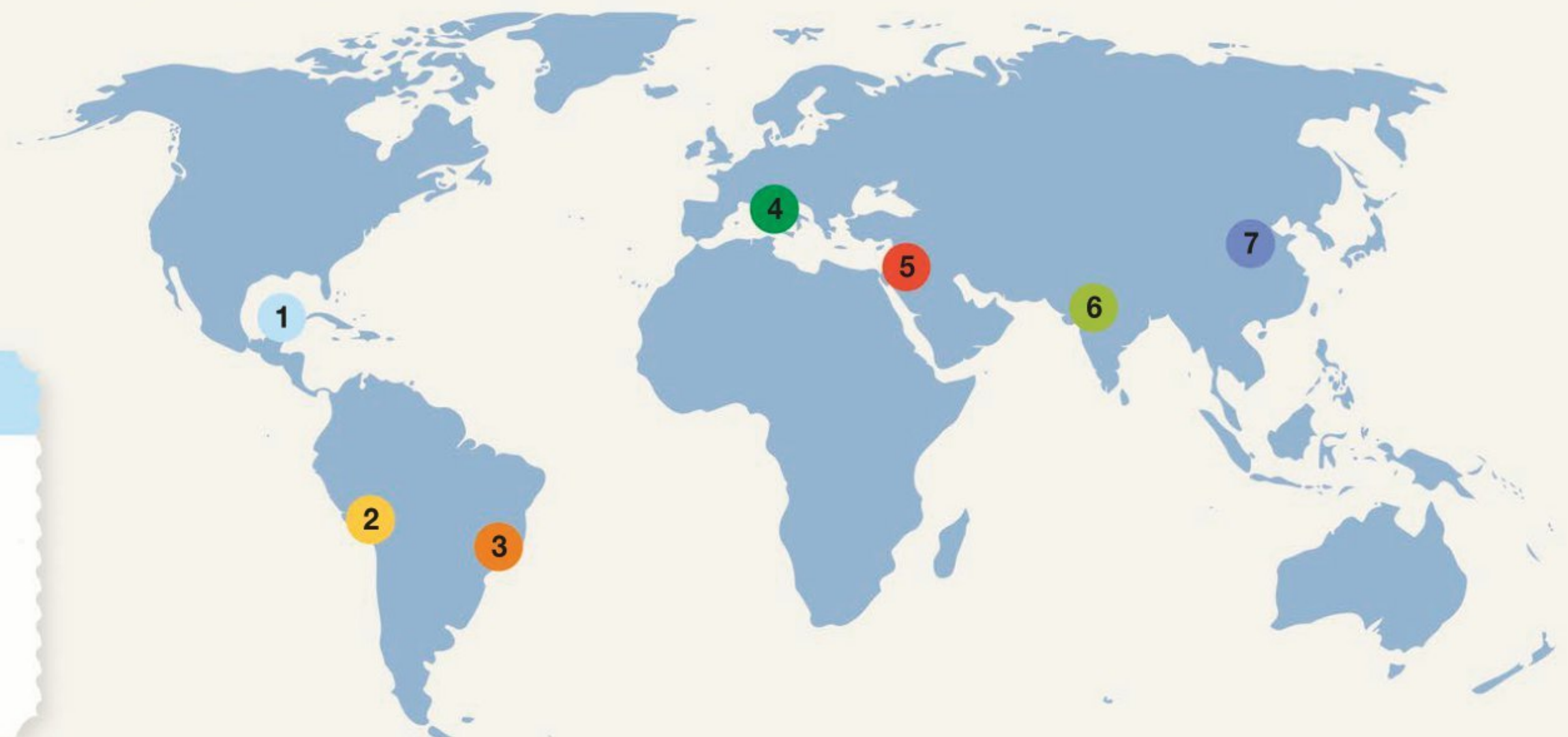
Ten popular tourist attractions

These 10 great sites are some of the most popular places for tourists to visit. They include historic buildings, religious sites, and ancient monuments.



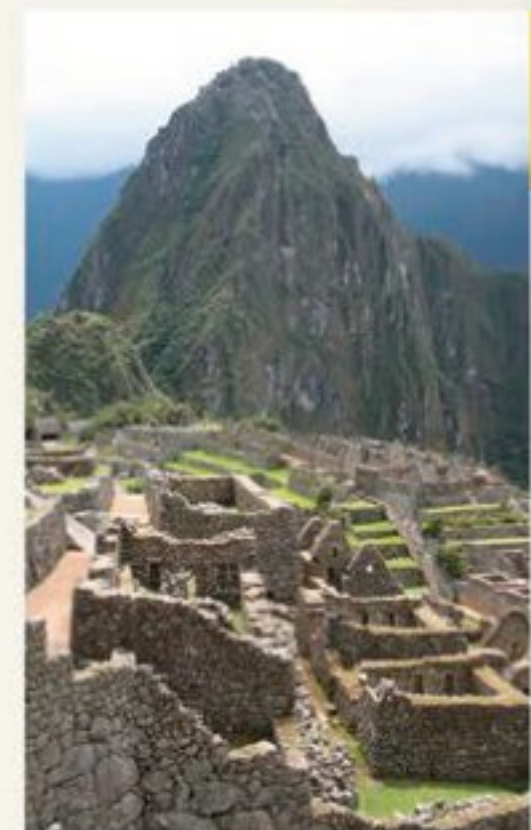
New Seven Wonders of the World

In 2007, an worldwide survey voted the great sites shown here as being the New Seven Wonders of the World. The original Seven Wonders of the Ancient World included the Great Pyramid at Giza, Egypt.



1. CHICHEN ITZA, Mexico

This ancient city was built by the Mayans. It has many great stone buildings, including this pyramid, called El Castillo.



2. MACHU PICCHU, Peru

Nestled in the Andes, this stone city built by the Incas is now in ruins. The name Machu Picchu means "old mountain."



4. COLOSSEUM, Italy

The Romans built this massive, oval-shaped stadium. It could seat more than 50,000 people. Gladiators fought in it.



6. TAJ MAHAL, India

The Taj Mahal means "crown of palaces." It was built as a tomb for Mumtaz Mahal, wife of the Mogul emperor Shah Jahan.



3. CHRIST THE REDEEMER, Brazil

This huge statue of Jesus Christ is 100 ft (30 m) tall. It is carved out of soapstone and looms over Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.



5. PETRA, Jordan

The ancient city of Petra was carved out of rocky cliffs. It is also known as the "Rose City," because of the rock's pink color.



7. GREAT WALL OF CHINA, China

The longest man-made structure, the Great Wall is an amazing sight as it winds its way through the mountains of China.



4. What is the name of this rock formation in Australia?

3. Flying doctors travel across the deserts of which country?

2. Nelson Falls is found on which remote island?

1. Which fox lives in the far north of the world?

AUSTRALASIA AND THE POLAR REGIONS

The countries of Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Island nations make up Australasia, in the southern half of the world. At the extreme north and south are the polar regions of the Arctic and Antarctic, where few people live because it is so cold.

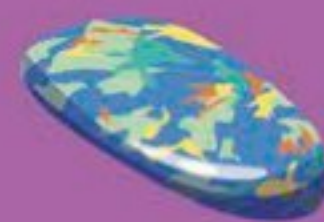
5. Which Arctic people cut holes in the ice to catch fish?

6. In which country is this building shaped like a beehive?

7. Penguins are found in which polar region?

8. What is the coral reef off Australia's coastline called?

You can find all the answers and more quizzes on pages 120-121.



AUSTRALASIA

The vast region of Australasia contains a wide variety of different landscapes, ranging from the desert that covers most of Australia to tropical islands dotted around the Pacific Ocean, which are fringed with golden, sandy beaches and coral reefs. There are also large areas of dense rain forest in eastern Australia, Tasmania, Papua New Guinea, and New Zealand.



Perth

This coastal city is the capital of the state of Western Australia. Its center is crammed with modern, high-rise buildings. Although it is one of the world's most isolated cities, Perth is home to people from many different countries and cultures.

SCALE



Uluru

This unique, sandstone rock formation rises up majestically from the desert of Australia's Northern Territory and is of great spiritual and cultural importance to Australia's Aboriginal people.



French Polynesia

A group of 118 far-flung Pacific islands makes up this territory that belongs to France, although it is a long way from Europe. The islands have beautiful beaches and coral reefs.



Coral reefs

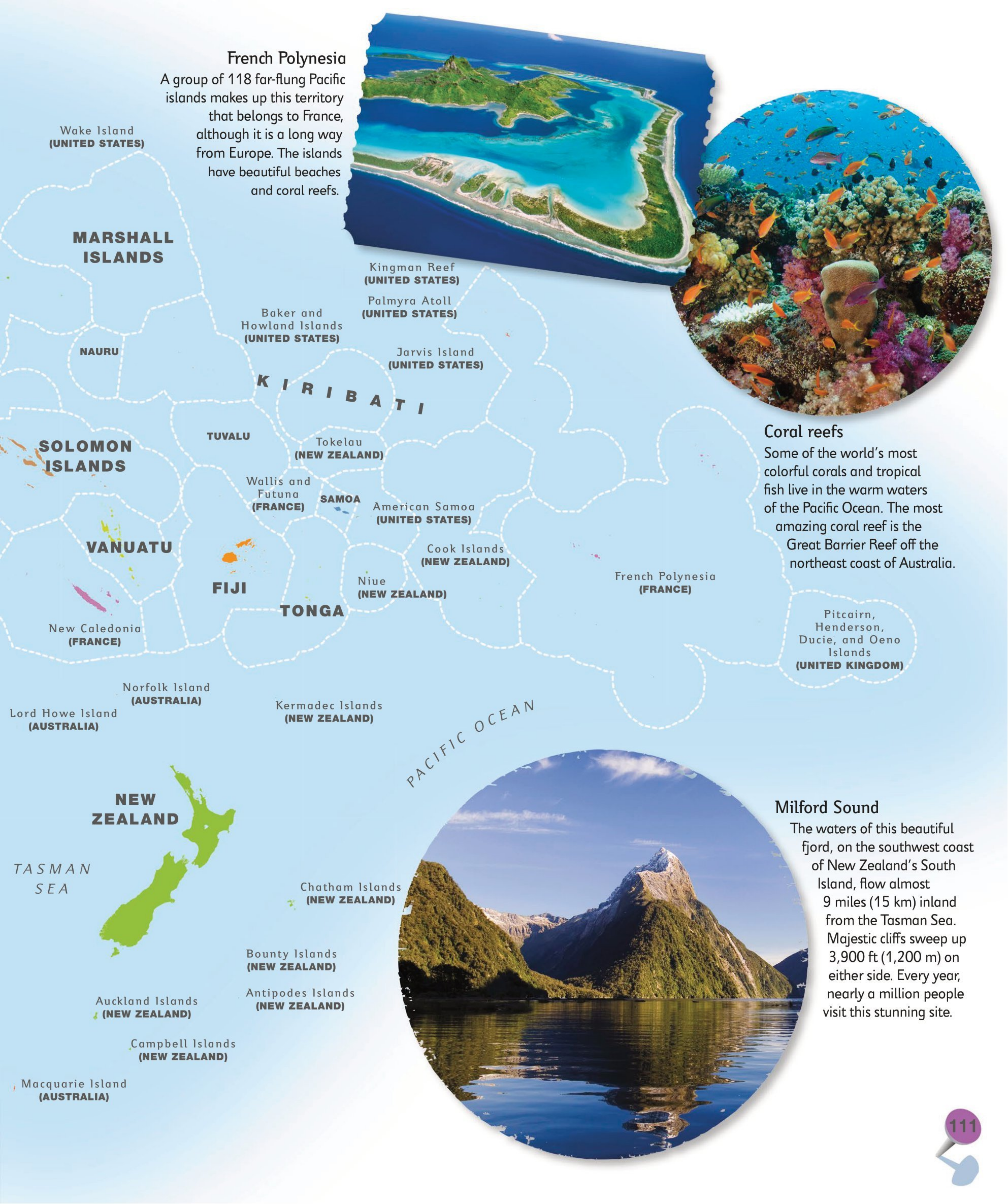
Some of the world's most colorful corals and tropical fish live in the warm waters of the Pacific Ocean. The most amazing coral reef is the Great Barrier Reef off the northeast coast of Australia.

Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie, and Oeno Islands
(UNITED KINGDOM)

PACIFIC OCEAN

Milford Sound

The waters of this beautiful fjord, on the southwest coast of New Zealand's South Island, flow almost 9 miles (15 km) inland from the Tasman Sea. Majestic cliffs sweep up 3,900 ft (1,200 m) on either side. Every year, nearly a million people visit this stunning site.



AUSTRALIA

Australia is a huge island between the Indian and Pacific oceans. The middle of Australia is a vast desert known as the "Outback," which is extremely hot and dry. Most Australians live around the coastal areas, where it is cooler. Here, many people enjoy outdoor activities, such as surfing.

KEY

PRODUCE

-  Cotton
-  Vineyards
-  Cattle
-  Sheep
-  Bananas
-  Wheat
-  Sugar cane

RESOURCES

-  Coal
-  Iron Ore
-  Bauxite
-  Gold
-  Silver
-  Uranium
-  Lumber

ACTIVITIES

-  Surfing
-  Cricket
-  Skiing
-  Rugby
-  Scuba diving

Kangaroos

Australia is home to many unique animals, including the kangaroo. Kangaroos, like other marsupials, have a pouch in which they carry their young. They move by hopping on their back legs.

A baby kangaroo is called a joey



Surfing



Sun, sand, surf

Australia has long stretches of sandy beaches. People enjoy surfing on some of the world's biggest waves.

Barbecues

Australians love to cook and eat outdoors and barbecuing food, such as juicy shrimp, is very popular. It is also a great way to cook tasty meals.





ARAFURA SEA

NEW PAPUA
GUINEA

PACIFIC OCEAN

Great Barrier Reef

The world's largest coral reefs are off the northeastern coast of Australia. They cover about the same area as Japan and are a great site for scuba divers.



All kinds of colorful fish make their home among the corals of the Great Barrier Reef

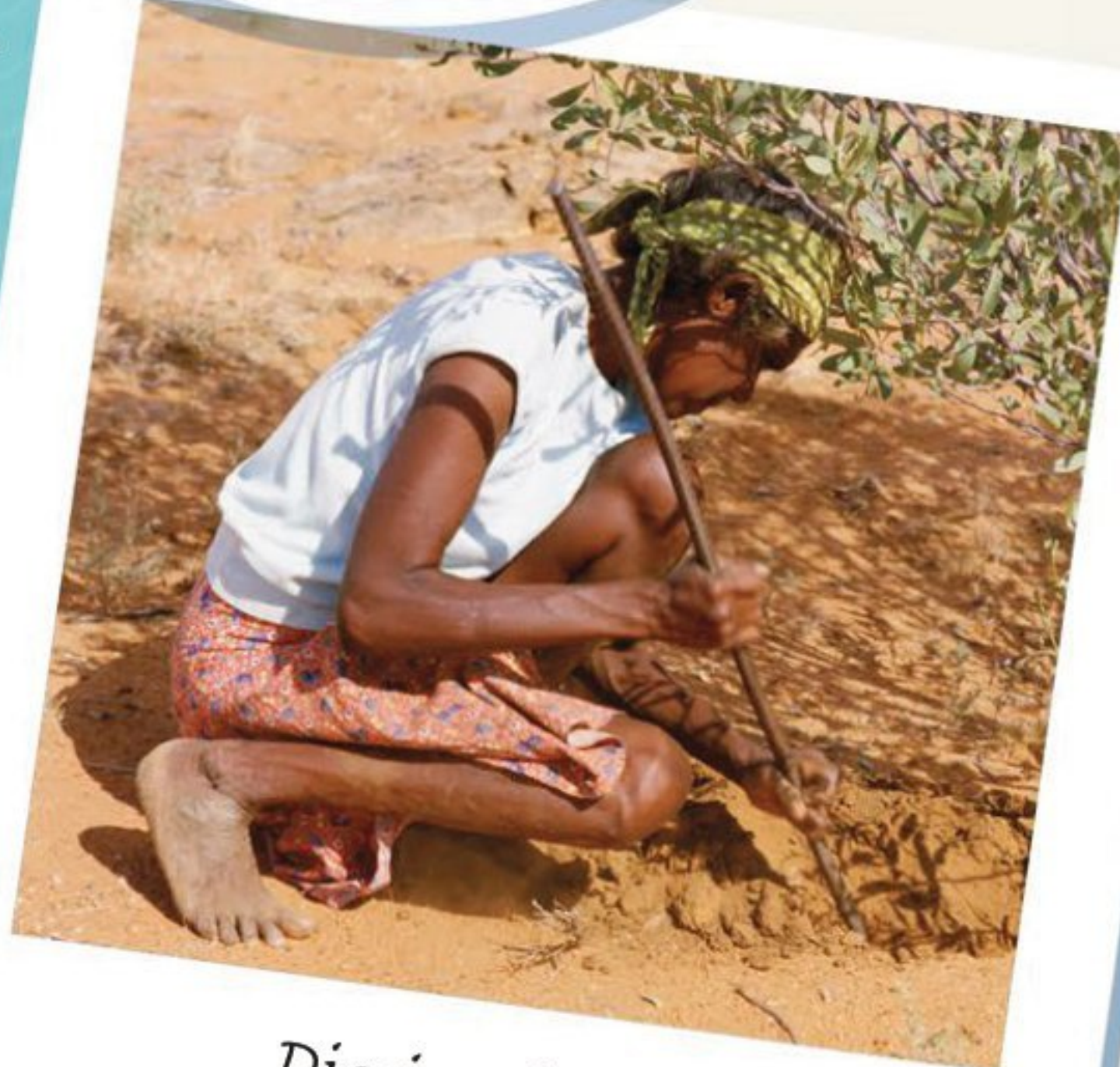
Duck-billed Platypus

Cairns

Townsville

Aboriginals

The Aboriginals were the first people to live in Australia. Some have held onto their traditions and are skilled at finding food in the bush, such as witchetty grubs (larvae of moths).



Digging for food

These bearlike animals live in and eat the leaves of eucalyptus, or gum trees

Koala

Brisbane

Cape Byron Lighthouse

This bright lighthouse on Australia's easternmost point helps keep ships safe

Opera House

Sydney is Australia's oldest and largest city. Its opera house stands in the city's harbor. It is instantly recognizable because of its dramatic shape. The roofs look like the sails of a ship.



Sydney

Canberra

Tasmanian devil

These fierce animals are the size of a small dog and only live in the wild in Tasmania. They are named "devils" because of their aggressive character.



Aboriginal paintings of European ships arriving in the 18th century feature on rocks in this park

Kakadu National Park

This egg-laying mammal is only found in Australia

GULF OF CARPENTARIA

AUSTRALIA

Alice Springs

To reach remote areas, doctors have to travel in light aircraft

Flying Doctors

SIMPSON DESERT

Australia's national gemstone is found in many bright colors, including green, blue, and yellow

Opal

Macadamia trees are native to Australia and their nuts are a tasty food crop

Macadamia nuts

These traditional paddle steamer boats still travel on the Darling and Murray rivers

Paddle Steamer

This formation of three towering rocks is in the Blue Mountains

Three Sisters Rocks

Adelaide

This sport has two teams of 18 players and is only played professionally in Australia

Australian football

Melbourne

Melbourne Cup

This major horse race is one of the biggest sporting events in Australia

This waterfall is in the Tasmanian Wilderness area

Nelson Falls

Hobart

Tasmania

TASMAN SEA



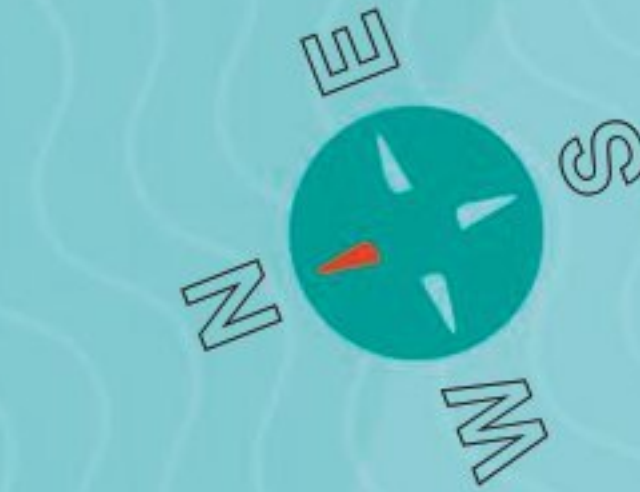
Kiwi

This flightless bird is native to New Zealand. It is the country's national symbol and appears on coins and badges. New Zealanders are often referred to as "Kiwis".



The haka

All Blacks rugby team
The All Blacks is the nickname of the national men's rugby union team. It is one of the best rugby teams in the world. The men perform a *haka*, a traditional Māori war dance, before each international match.



The Māori people built wooden meeting houses, often with detailed carving on the outside



Carved meeting house

Whangarei

This huge tree only grows on New Zealand's North Island. It can be up to 165 ft (50 m) tall with a 16 ft (5 m) diameter trunk

Kauri

Auckland

BAY OF PLENTY

Hamilton

Rotorua

Gisborne

Pohutu Geyser

"Pohutu" means explosion or big splash. Hot water from this geyser spurts up into the air about 20 times a day, reaching heights of around 100 ft (30 m).



This active volcano last erupted in the mid-19th century

Mt Taranaki

New Plymouth

North Island

Waikato



Lake Taupo

Napier

Napier has many Art Deco buildings, which were built after an earthquake in the 1930s

Art Deco building

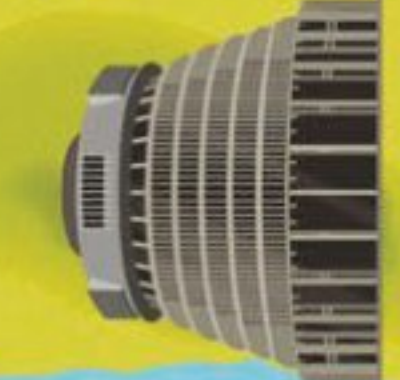
Palmerston North

Māori club

Māori warriors used short-handled clubs to strike their enemies in battle. They were made from whale bone, hard volcanic rock, wood, and sometimes iron. Some were elaborately carved.

"Beehive"

Parliament building



The Prime Minister and his cabinet work in this building. It is known as "the beehive" because of its shape

Nelson

Blenheim

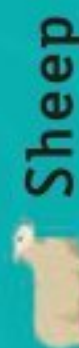
Wellington

SCALE

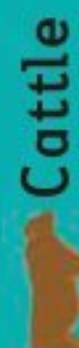
0 50 miles
0 50 kilometers

KEY

PRODUCE



Sheep



Cattle



Vineyards



Apples and pears



Peaches



Wheat

INDUSTRY



Hydroelectric power



Oil



Gas



Coal



Gold

ACTIVITIES



Skiing



Hiking



Fishing



Mountain biking



White-water rafting



Sailing



Hot springs

NATURAL FEATURES



Earthquakes



Volcanoes

TASMAN SEA





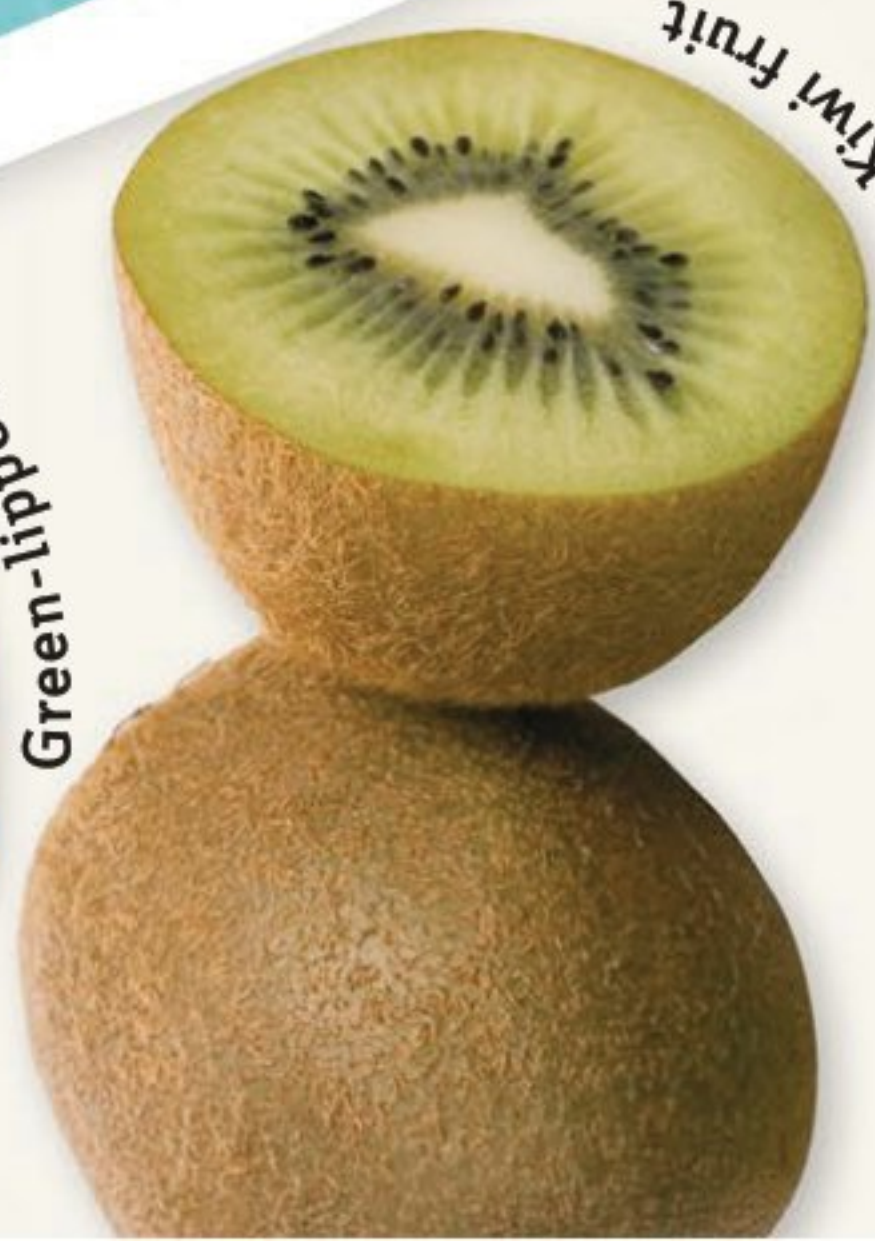
Hiking on Franz Josef glacier

Glaciers

New Zealand has many glaciers, mostly on South Island. One of the largest is the Franz Josef glacier, named after an Austrian emperor by a German explorer. This massive block of ice is 7½ miles (12 km) long.



Green-tipped mussels



Kiwi fruit

Farming and fishing

New Zealand exports its produce all over the world. It is famous for its lamb and juicy, green-fleshed kiwi fruit. Large, green-lipped mussels live around the coast and are also farmed.

New Zealand's climate is ideal for growing grapes for making wine, and the country is famous for its high-quality Sauvignon Blanc wine.

Greymouth

Hello!

Sauvignon Blanc

Large numbers of sperm whales feed in the waters near Kaikoura.

Kaikoura

Sperm whale

Christchurch

SOUTHERN ALPS
South Island

Waitaki

This impressive church seats more than 1,000 people.

Dunedin

Milford Sound

FIORDLAND

Clutha

Invercargill

This very rare parrot cannot fly. It is also called the owl parrot, because it only comes out at night.

Kakapo

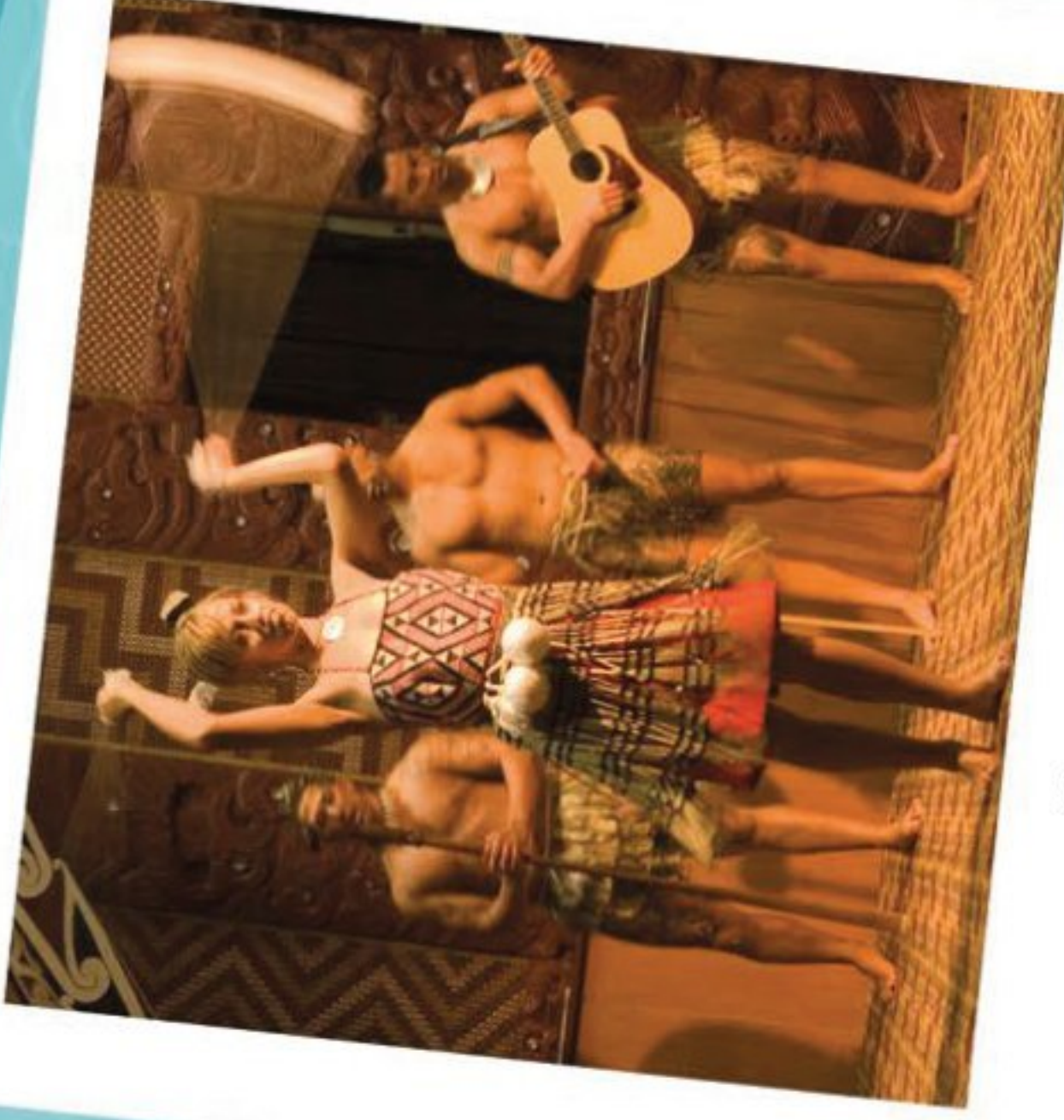
Stewart Island
PACIFIC OCEAN

Cardboard Cathedral

An earthquake severely damaged Christchurch's cathedral in 2011. A cardboard, steel, and lumber replacement was built nearby to use while repairs are carried out.

Māori

Māoris were the first people to arrive in New Zealand, nearly 1,000 years ago. Today, they make up less than a quarter of the population, but the interest in their culture is growing. Children can now learn the Māori language in school.



Māori dancers

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand is one of the world's most isolated countries, being nearly 930 miles (1,500 km) from its nearest neighbor, Australia. It is made up of two large islands and several smaller ones. Farmland and forests cover much of the country. Volcanic activity has created many high mountains and hot springs.

ANTARCTICA

Antarctica is the coldest and driest continent on Earth. More than 99 percent of the land is covered by a huge ice sheet, which is up to $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles (4.5 km) thick in places. No people live there permanently, but scientists and tourists visit to study this icy world and its unique animals and plants.

Krill

The cold waters of the Southern Ocean are full of krill. These little shrimplike animals are the main source of food for many birds and whales.



Halley VI dining unit

Antarctic stations

Scientists live and work in Antarctica in research stations. *Halley VI* is a British station that has eight units, which can be moved independently. Each unit sits above the ice on stilts with skis.

Larsen B Ice Shelf

This huge area of ice lying over the Weddell Sea is breaking up and melting. Scientists think this is because the Earth is getting warmer.



Emperor penguins

Penguins cannot fly. Instead, they use their wings to swim underwater to search for krill and fish. Emperor penguins breed on the ice during the winter, with each pair raising one chick.





Scientists examining a meteorite

Meteorites

Rocks from space that land on the Earth's surface are called meteorites. Thousands of meteorites have been collected from Antarctica, including ones from the Moon and the planet Mars.



Roald Amundsen

Race to the South Pole

Explorers competed to be the first people to reach the South Pole, the southernmost point on Earth. The Norwegian Roald Amundsen led the first successful team there in 1911.

KEY

NATURAL FEATURES



Volcanoes

ACTIVITIES



Cross-country skiing

OTHER



Research stations



Fishing trawler

THE ARCTIC

The extreme northern edges of the countries of Europe, Asia, and North America lie within the Arctic region. At its center lies the North Pole. Most of the Arctic is ice, floating above the Arctic Ocean. In summer, the ice shrinks and chunks break off into the ocean. In winter, the ice expands.

Polar bear

The polar bear's thick fur helps it keep warm in freezing Arctic temperatures. It hunts mainly seals, which it catches through holes in the ice. It is also a very good swimmer.

Inuit carving

The Inuit are a group of people that live in the Arctic regions of the US, Canada, and Greenland. They have created carvings of animal figures, made from walrus tusks.





Noril'sk

Vorkuta

Murmansk

Tromsø

Longyearbyen

Daneborg

Sisimiut

Savissivik

Pond Inlet

The Nenets people are reindeer herders and live in "chum" tents, made out of reindeer hides

Submarines can pass under the frozen ice and travel directly below the North Pole

The seed vault in Svalbard preserves samples of different seeds from around the world to make sure they don't die out

Ships with thick, strong hulls are used to break through sea ice

Sperm whales dive deep to hunt for octopus and squid, including giant squid

Arctic foxes hunt Arctic hares and have to be quick to catch them

The Arctic hare is white, making it hard to see against the snow

The Inuit cut holes in the ice to catch fish swimming in the water below

The hardy Arctic poppy has delicate yellow flowers

Northern Lights

Dark nights

The Arctic has long, dark nights in winter, and for many days the Sun does not rise at all. Some nights, the colorful Northern Lights, or Aurora Borealis, can be seen flashing across the sky.

Sami embroidery

Sami embroidery and shoes

The Sami people are native to Lapland. Traditional Sami crafts include colorful embroidery and fur clothing, including footwear.

Inuit coat

The Inuit need thick, warm clothing to survive in the freezing Arctic winters. Coats are traditionally made from animal furs, which help trap heat.

ATLAS PICTURE QUIZ



This huge island has a vast hot and dry area in the middle known as "the Outback"



This large Asian country has contrasting landscapes



This sunny country lies on the edge of Western Europe



This long, thin South American country has mountains and deserts



This icy country is in the far north of Europe



This Asian country is made up of four main islands



This fertile country in the southern hemisphere is made up of two main islands



This long, thin country is shaped like a boot



This North American country is the second biggest in the world



All kinds of amazing animals are unique to this African island

GUESS THE ICON

All these colorful icons appear somewhere in this book. See if you can answer these questions about them. The answers are at the bottom of the page.

3. In which country does the kakapo make its home?



2. In which North African country is this ancient theater?



1. In which country would you find the Atacama desert?



4. Which animal is this okapi related to?



5. In which region would you find this hare?



6. Which country did the artist Vincent van Gogh come from?



7. Which Asian country is the black iris the symbol of?



11. In which country would you find Mt. Taranaki?



10. Where would you find stars fixed into the sidewalk?



9. In which country would you find the Forbidden City?



8. Where would you find a poppy with yellow flowers?



12. In which mountainous country does the llama live?



13. This seal lives in which huge lake in Russia?



14. In which country would you find the Shwethalyaung Buddha?



15. In which Asian country would you find the ziggurat of Ur?



19. What's the name of this Italian leaning tower?



18. In which African country is Nshima eaten?



17. On which continent is the Ice Marathon held?



16. In which country would you find this Odissi dancer?



20. In which country would you find the Little Mermaid?



21. The gymnast Nadia Comaneci came from which country?



22. Which city in the US is famous for its cable cars?



23. What's the name of this strange-looking fish?



Answers: Page 8-9 North America: 1. Mount Rushmore, 2. Dominican Republic, 3. Toronto, 4. Mexico, 5. New York, 6. Colorado River, 7. Inuit, 8. Panama Canal, Page 22-23 South America: 1. Rio de Janeiro, 2. Andes, 3. Colombia, 4. Chile, 5. Brazil, 6. Argentina, 7. Spectacled bear, 8. Peru, Page 34-35 Africa: 1. Tuareg, 2. Kenya, 3. Libya, 4. Feluccas, 5. Congo, 6. South Africa, 7. Zambian, 8. Madagascar, Page 50-51 Europe: 1. Corsica, 2. St. Basil's Cathedral, 3. England, 4. Salzburg, 5. Czech Republic, 6. France, 7. Danube River, 8. Spain, Page 80-81 Asia: 1. India, 2. Turkey, 3. China, 4. Mongolia, 5. Taiwan, 6. China, 7. Tokyo Skytree, 8. South Korea, Page 108-109 Australasia and the Polar Regions: 1. Arctic fox, 2. Tasmania, 3. Australia, 4. Uluru (Ayers Rock), 5. Inuit, 6. New Zealand, 7. Antarctica, 8. Great Barrier Reef, Page 120 Name the Country: 1. Australia, 2. India, 3. Portugal, 4. Chile, 5. Iceland, 6. Japan, 7. New Zealand, 8. Canada, 9. Italy, 10. Madagascar, Page 121 Guess the Icon: 1. Chile, 2. Algeria, 3. New Zealand, 4. Giraffe, 5. Arctic, 6. Netherlands, 7. Jordan, 8. Arctic, 9. China, 10. Los Angeles, 11. New Zealand, 12. Peru, 13. Lake Baikal, 14. Myanmar, 15. Iraq, 16. India, 17. Antarctica, 18. Zambia, 19. Tower of Pisa, 20. Denmark, 21. Romania, 22. San Francisco, 23. Patagonian toothfish.

GLOSSARY



aboriginals

Original or first-known inhabitants of a country. It is mainly used to refer to the native people of Australia

artifact

Man-made object, generally of historic or cultural interest, such as a painting or a vase

canyon

Deep, narrow valley with very steep, rocky sides. A stream or river usually flows through it

capital

Country's most important city. It is where the government usually meets and passes laws

climate

Normal weather pattern during the year in any part of the world

continents

Seven large areas of land that the world is divided into: Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America, and South America

coral reef

Rocklike structure formed by a group of corals (simple sea animals) in the warm waters along tropical coasts. Many fish and other sea creatures live around coral reefs

country

Area of Earth that is governed by the same leaders and has the same flag. Most continents are made up of many different countries

crops

Plants grown to feed people and animals. Crops need the right soil and climate to grow well

culture

Way of life and beliefs of the people of a region or country

delta

Flat land formed from material deposited by a river around the area where it enters the sea or flows into a lake. Soil in a delta area is usually very fertile

desert

Dry region that gets 10 in (25 cm) or less of rainfall in a year. Deserts can be hot or cold. Only a few animals and plants are able to live in desert areas

dunes

Small mounds or ridges of sand that are formed by the wind or flowing water pushing the sand together. They are usually found along beaches or in sandy deserts.

earthquake

Movement of large blocks of rock beneath the Earth's surface. Cracks may open up in the ground, causing buildings to collapse

endangered

Word used to describe a species of plant or animal with only a few living members left

equator

Imaginary line around the Earth, which is exactly halfway between the North and South Poles. Countries close to the equator are hotter than countries that are farther away from it

ethnic group

Group of people who share the same racial, religious, or cultural background

exports

Goods or services that are sold to another country

extinct

Word used to describe a plant or animal species that has no living members. All dinosaurs, for example, are now extinct

fertile land

Land where the soil is particularly good for growing crops on

fjord

Long, narrow bay or inlet, with steep, high, rocky sides. The word is Norwegian and was first used to describe the many deep inlets along Norway's rocky coast

fossil

Remains or shape of a prehistoric plant or animal that have been preserved in rock

game reserve

Area where wild animals are protected from hunters, or where hunting is limited by law. Africa has many game reserves

geyser

Fountain of hot water and steam that shoots up out of the ground. Geysers form when an underground stream flows over hot, volcanic rocks

glacier

Huge, thick sheet of ice moving very slowly, either down the side of a mountain or over an area of land. Glaciers help to shape and form the landscape

grasslands

Open land covered in grass and a few small bushes. Larger plants, such as trees, rarely grow on grasslands. Grasslands are called prairies in the United States

gulf

Large area of sea that is almost enclosed by land, such as the Gulf of Mexico and Persian Gulf

hot (thermal) spring

Place where hot water, heated by volcanic activity, flows out of cracks in the ground

hurricane

Very violent storm with extremely strong winds that can cause a great deal of damage

hydroelectric power

Electricity created by machinery driven by fast-flowing water. Water forced under high pressure through dams built across rivers is often used for this purpose

iceberg

Massive piece of ice that has broken off from a glacier or ice sheet and floated out to sea

imports

Goods or services bought from another country

irrigation

Supplying water to dry areas of land, so that crops can grow there. The water is carried or pumped along pipes or ditches

island

Piece of land that has water all around it. Islands occur in oceans, seas, lakes, and rivers

lake

Large body of water surrounded by land

migrate

Move from one country or region to go and live in another. People migrate for many reasons, such as to find work or escape war

mine

Place where naturally occurring resources (such as coal, iron ore, copper, and gold) and gemstones (such as diamonds and rubies) are dug out of the ground



mineral

Natural substance found in the Earth's rocks, such as metals and precious gemstones, which are removed by mining

monsoon

Strong wind that blows across south and Southeast Asia. It changes direction as the seasons change, causing very heavy rain from May to September.

mountain

Area of land that rises up much higher than the land around it to form a peak at the top. Some mountaintops are so high that they reach the icy cold air far above Earth, and so have snow on them even in summer.

national park

Area of countryside that has been preserved in its natural state by the government of a country to protect the wildlife there and for people to enjoy.

native

Person linked to a place by birth, or whose family are from the original inhabitants of an area.

nomads

People who do not live in one fixed place. Instead they move around an area in search of food, water, and land to graze their animals on

oasis

Area of fertile land in the desert. Plants can grow easily there, unlike in the rest of the desert, because water lies on or very close to the surface

ocean

Very large sea. There are five oceans: Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, Arctic Ocean, and Southern Ocean

pampas

Name given to the vast grasslands found in part of South America

peninsula

Strip of land that is surrounded by water on three of its sides

plain

Area of flat, open land with very few trees. Plains are often covered with grass

plateau

Large area of high, flat land. Some mountains, such as Table Mountain in Cape Town, South Africa, have a plateau at the top

polar region

Area near to the North or South Pole. Polar regions are covered in a thick layer of ice for most of the year and are extremely cold

population

Total number of people living in a given area of land.

port

Town or city on the coast with a harbor, where boats and ships can load or unload goods and let passengers board or get off

province

Officially recognized area of a country or state. Provinces often have their own leaders, although they are still governed by the laws of the country they are part of

rain forest

Dense forest with very high rainfall. Most are near the equator and are also very hot.

rapids

Part of a river that is moving at great speed, because it is flowing over very steep ground.

reservoir

Large natural or artificial lake, where water is collected and stored for people to use in homes, businesses, industry, and farming

river

Large stream of water that flows from a high place to a lower place. Rivers start as small streams high up in the mountains and flow down into the sea

safari

Journey that involves looking at wild animals in their natural surroundings. It usually refers to trips taken in Africa

savanna

Name given to open grasslands in tropical and subtropical countries

sea

Large body of saltwater. Seas (including oceans) cover most of the Earth's surface

sea level

Average level of the surface of the world's seas and oceans. The height of land is given as how far it is above sea level. The depth of a sea or ocean is given as how far it is below sea level

shrubland

Area of land covered in lots of small trees and bushes, as well as different types of grass

species

Distinct group of animals or plants that share similar features

state

Nation or territory that is organized as a community under one government

steppe

Name given to the vast, grassy plains that stretch from Eastern Europe right across central Asia

terrain

Area of land, usually with a particular feature, such as mountains or grassy plains

territory

Area of land that belongs to a particular country or state

tornado

Spinning cloud of very strong wind. Tornadoes will destroy almost anything in their path

tribe

Group of people who share the same culture and history. It usually refers to people who live together in traditional communities, far from cities and towns

tropical

Conditions found in areas near the Equator. Tropical weather, for example, is very hot and wet

valley

Low area of land between hills or mountains

vegetation

Type of plants found in an area of land

volcano

Mountain or hill that may erupt, pouring out hot lava (molten rock) from a crater in its top

wetlands

Land with wet, spongy soil, such as a marsh or swamp. Many animals and plants specialize in living in wetlands

wildlife

Wild animals that live in an area of land

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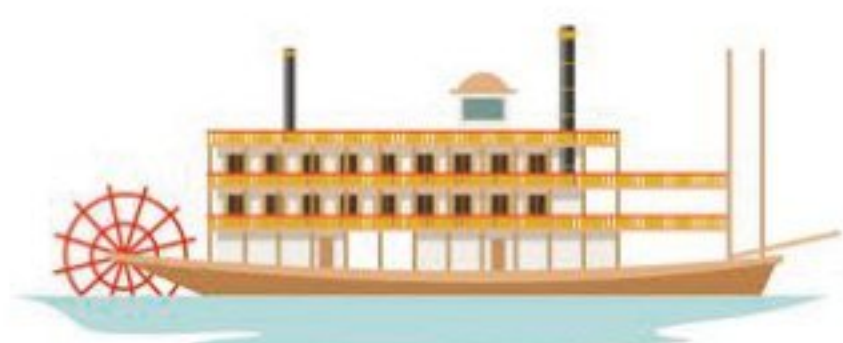
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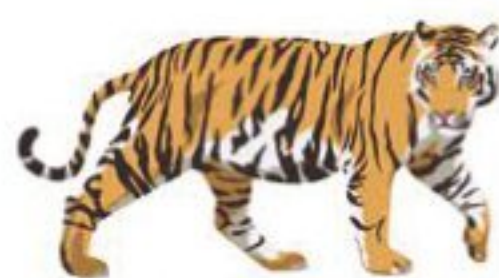
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